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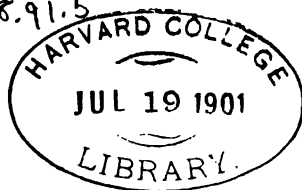
ENGLISH TOPOGRAPHY, PART XIII.
(*WARWICKSHIRE—WESTMORELAND—WILTSHIRE.*)

EDITED BY F. A. MILNE, M.A.

LONDON:
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(XIII)



INTRODUCTION.

THREE counties are dealt with in this volume of the topographical collections from the *Gentleman's Magazine*. The northern county, Westmoreland, is represented very scantily, the fact being that travelling in North Britain during the eighteenth century by people likely to interest themselves in topographical particulars was not frequent. Indeed, the contributions, judged by their length and value, make an interesting test of the social relationship of the several counties to the capital. In the days of railways and bicycles no place is distant from London, and it is not easy for us to understand the change which these two means of locomotion have made. We may attempt to do so by these contributions to local history published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* when most people lived in the places of their birth, and when Warwickshire folk knew not those of Westmoreland, while those of Westmoreland scarcely knew of the existence of Wiltshire.

Warwickshire is known to most Englishmen as Shakespeare's county, and Stratford occupies a considerable space in these pages. The county is particularly rich in historical associations besides those attaching to the great national poet, and there are many communications of value giving local notes of the Civil War and other historical episodes of which Warwickshire was the centre. Family history is also very well represented, and the records of heraldry noted from the churches or from houses or other buildings are particularly valuable, seeing how frequently these memorials of the past have been destroyed by ignorant architects, with the connivance of indifferent clergy, who, as temporary custodians of the edifices where they

minister so frequently, consider it right to do permanent and irretrievable damage. The wanton destruction at Shakespeare's birth-place (p. 75) is about as bad an example of what is tolerated in this country under the authority given to ownership as could possibly be imagined. The Aston heraldry is very well described, as are those of Stratford and Temple Balsall.

Westmoreland is very scantily represented, as I have stated, but what there is of it is particularly interesting.

Wiltshire is more fully described, and contains, as might be expected, much of interest to the reader. Perhaps an undue proportion is given to the extracts relating to Fonthill, but they could hardly be shortened without destroying them, and as they describe things not now in existence, they will probably be of use to many readers. It is not surprising that so celebrated a house should be regarded by Wiltshire antiquaries contemporary with its glories as deserving special attention. No one will, I think, complain of the descriptions of Old Sarum and Salisbury being unduly long, for the details are highly interesting and valuable, being for the most part records of finds and excavations noted contemporaneously. The recent fall of a stone at Stonehenge brings into prominence the note on p. 340 which records a similar fall prior to 1806. A beautiful example of the Manor House is well described as standing at Great Chalfield (p. 261) in 1834, but was destroyed before 1838, as described by another correspondent. Throughout, the notes relating to this county are of more than ordinary interest on account of the details mentioned from personal observation by the various writers.

The usual amount of family and church history is to be found in this volume. It is particularly interesting, and will appeal to many readers who love the old places where England's history has been made.

Of course there are many errors of fact and not a few of taste in these pages. But these belong to the times, indicate the genuineness of the communications, help us to gauge their value, and otherwise give the flavour of enjoyment which readers of eighteenth-century literature know so well. It is of course monstrous to be told that Simon de Montfort proved his cowardice to be equal to his cruelty (p. 8); that that heroic woman Ethelflæda erected the "dungeon" of Warwick, "suited to the ferocious temper of the age" (p. 7); and so on. The discovery at Little Wolford and the

curious conjecture thereon (p. 73) takes us to a region of domestic history which has not been investigated. The Saxon "nobleman" and "lord of the manor" of Stretton-upon-Fosse (p. 103) is an anomaly created by the eighteenth-century writer. But these errors are such as can be admitted and recognised as part of the characteristics of the times in which the various writers worked, and they by no means disfigure the narratives.

The respect paid to Addison's house at Bilton Hall and the note of a parallel case in Thomson's house at Richmond (p. 16) are examples of eighteenth-century taste which we might copy with advantage. One cannot say, however, that this feeling was universal in that century, for destruction was rife then as now. The story told of Alderton in Wiltshire (p. 199) is one which probably could be applied with more or less accuracy to most of the towns in England, and yet no one seems to think it worth while to induce Parliament to legislate so that we might have at least the protection which in such countries as Russia, Denmark, and France is given to historical buildings. It is, however, pleasing to think that King John's hunting-seat at Tollard Royal (pp. 188, 346) has been so splendidly preserved in our own time by General Pitt-Rivers.

The legend of Guy of Warwick is represented locally by the name of Guy's Cliff, to which the great hero of romance is said to have retired (p. 7). At Warwick Castle are preserved the sword, shield, and helmet attributed to that hero by tradition (p. 19). Another traditional hero is Bevis of Southampton, who is supposed to have resided at Downton in Wiltshire (p. 183). The local legend of the church between Boyton and Corton belongs to a large class, and is worth noting (p. 182). The family legend of the nurse attending a secret birth at Littlecote, and its direful consequences (p. 277), is very interesting, and deserves comparison with others of its class. The singular traditions in the neighbourhood of a ghostly apparition of a beautiful child, told later on (p. 280), are no doubt part of the original legend, if they could be traced out.

The municipal custom at Marlborough (p. 185) is not, so far as I am aware, recorded elsewhere. Another extremely important municipal custom is that at Malmesbury (p. 290), and I have examined it at some length in my book, "The Village Community." The Church custom of carrying a garland decorated with ribbons

before the corpse of a young unmarried woman (p. 187) was seen in its decay at Stockton in 1825. If the details of Box revel (p. 206) had been properly described, they might have revealed features going back to an older civilization than that sanctioned by the Christian Church, and perhaps would have supported the writer's theory that this neighbourhood was the centre of Celtic worship. The Devizes custom (p. 225) is paralleled elsewhere in this country, and is altogether very interesting.

The records of the guild of Stratford (pp. 80-98) are particularly interesting to the history of trade and society. Perhaps the most curious note of contemporary history is the paragraph describing the men of Birmingham making use of water-power at Sutton Coldfield owing to the many absent workmen at war (p. 110).

One of the famous turf figures is noted at Radway, being locally known as the Red Horse (p. 18), and others are noted at Selwood (p. 174), and at Bowood (p. 190). The great collection of human bones at Stratford (pp. 22, 23) is one of three or four examples in the country, and the origin of which is not determined. The town hall at Sutton Coldfield (p. 113) was called the Moot Hall in 1844, and, with the borough cross at Downton (p. 227), is particularly interesting to municipal history. A corresponding local custom is the election of the members for Old Sarum under a tree near Stratford Church (p. 188).

Medicinal springs were much in vogue during the eighteenth century, and people then preferred those in their own country. The note on the waters near Shottery in Warwickshire is interesting (p. 20). Leamington is of course still in vogue. Another note, dated 1813 (p. 73), is a useful historical record.

This volume appears to me to contain more interesting observations than usual. Each extract is left entire, with full reference to illustrations, for the benefit of those who might wish to refer to the original. The only changes made are to leave out some of the passages which contain no information beyond the inflated views of the writer upon his first acquaintance with an object of antiquity, or the unnecessary preface or peroration to articles the value of which consists in the facts they record. A few of the Scripture quotations on epitaphs are also omitted.

LAURENCE GOMME.

24, DORSET SQUARE,
April, 1901.



CONTENTS.

WARWICKSHIRE :

	PAGE
General	3-20
The Neighbourhood of Stratford-upon-Avon	20-25
Alscott	25
Aston	25-27
Atherstone	28
Baginton	28-32
Berkswell	32-33
Birmingham	33-37
Bishopton	37-38
Broome	38
Caldecote	38-39
Coughton	39-41
Coventry	41-54
Deretend	55-56
Dunchurch	56-58
Eatington	58
Edgbaston	58-59
Edgehill	60
Edston	60
Halford	60-61
Hampton-in-Arden	61-64
Hatton	65-66
Henley-in-Arden	66
Honiley	66-67
Kenilworth	67-68
Knowle	68-72

WARWICKSHIRE *continued*—

	PAGE
Leamington - - - - -	73
Little Wolford - - - - -	73-74
Long Compton - - - - -	74
Stratford-upon-Avon - - - - -	74-103
Stretton-upon-Fosse - - - - -	103-108
Sutton Coldfield - - - - -	108-115
Temple Balsall - - - - -	115-120
Warwick - - - - -	120-127
Wedgeock - - - - -	127
Wellesbourne - - - - -	128
Wolvey - - - - -	128-130
Wotton Wawen - - - - -	130

WESTMORELAND :

General - - - - -	133-144
Public Schools in Westmoreland - - - - -	144-148
Bolton - - - - -	148-151
Great Musgrave - - - - -	151-152
Kendal - - - - -	152-153
Kirkby Stephen - - - - -	154-156
Ravenstonedale - - - - -	156-157
Shap - - - - -	157-159
Sizergh - - - - -	160
Wharfedale - - - - -	160-161
Willington - - - - -	161
Windermere - - - - -	161-163

WILTSHIRE :

General - - - - -	167-189
Picturesque Scenes in Wilts - - - - -	189-191
Wiltshire Gentry - - - - -	191-193
Topographical Tour in Wilts - - - - -	193-199
Alderton - - - - -	199-200
Amesbury - - - - -	200
Ansty - - - - -	201
Avebury - - - - -	201
Berwick St. Leonard - - - - -	201-202
Biddeston - - - - -	203-204
Box - - - - -	204-207
Bradenstoke - - - - -	207-211

WILTSHIRE *continued*—

	PAGE
Bremhill - - - - -	211-215
Britford - - - - -	215-217
Bromham - - - - -	217
Chapel Plaster - - - - -	218-220
Chippenham - - - - -	220
Cholderton - - - - -	220-221
Cricklade - - - - -	221-222
Crudwell - - - - -	222-224
Dauntsey - - - - -	224-225
Devizes - - - - -	225
Dinton - - - - -	225-226
Ditteridge - - - - -	226-227
Downton - - - - -	227-228
Edington - - - - -	228-233
Farleigh - - - - -	233
Fonthill - - - - -	233-258
Froxfield - - - - -	258
Great Bedwyn - - - - -	259-260
Great Chalfield - - - - -	261-268
Kemble - - - - -	268
Kingston Deverill - - - - -	269
Kingswood - - - - -	269-273
Kington St. Michael - - - - -	273-274
Knoyle Odieme - - - - -	274
Lacock Abbey - - - - -	274-277
Littlecote - - - - -	277-281
Longleat - - - - -	281-283
Maiden Bradley - - - - -	284
Malmesbury - - - - -	285-294
Marlborough - - - - -	294-295
Mere - - - - -	295-298
Monkton Farley - - - - -	298-300
Norton - - - - -	300
Old Sarum - - - - -	300-308
Pottern - - - - -	308-309
Salisbury - - - - -	309-329
Savernake - - - - -	329-331
Sherston - - - - -	331
South Wraxhall - - - - -	331-335
Shrewton - - - - -	335-336

<i>WILTSHIRE continued—</i>						PAGE
Stanley Abbey	-	.	.	.	.	336-338
Stanton St. Quintin	-	.	.	.	.	339
Steeple Langford	-	.	.	.	.	339-340
Stonehenge	-	.	.	.	.	340-341
Stourton	-	.	.	.	.	341-343
Stratford-sub-Castle	-	.	.	.	.	343-344
Teffont Ewyas	-	.	.	.	.	344-346
Tollard Royal	-	.	.	.	.	346
Urchfont	-	.	.	.	.	346-347
Warminster	-	.	.	.	.	347
Westbury	-	.	.	.	.	347-348
West Dean	-	.	.	.	.	348-349
Whiteparish	-	.	.	.	.	349-350
Wilton	-	.	.	.	.	350-351
Wootton Bassett	-	.	.	.	.	351-352
Wyley	-	.	.	.	.	352
INDEX OF NAMES	-	.	.	.	.	355-379
INDEX OF SUBJECTS	-	.	.	.	.	380-388



Warwickshire.

VOL. XXV.

I



WARWICKSHIRE.

[1825, *Part I.*, pp. 34-36.]

ANCIENT STATE AND REMAINS.

British Inhabitants, Cornavii and Wigantes.

Roman Province.—Britannia Secunda. *Stations*.—Alauna, Alcester; Benonæ, High Cross; Chesterton (supposed); Manduessedum, Manceter; Præsidium, Warwick (doubtful).

Saxon Octarchy, Mercia.

Antiquities.—Roman Encampments of Brinklow, Chesterton, Edgehill, Ratley, Oldbury (supposed to have formed the summer camp to the station, Manduessedum), and a smaller one (supposed to have been constructed for a guard against any attempt at surprise). Saxon Earthworks and Encampments at Welcombe Hills (extensive). Abbeys of Combe (founded by Richard de Camvill temp. Stephen); Coventry (founded by Leofric, 5th Earl of Mercia, and his Countess Godiva); Merevale (founded by Robert, Earl Ferrers, 13 Stephen); and Stoneleigh (removed from Radmore, in Staffordshire, in 1154). Priors of Alcester (founded by Ralph Boteler about 1140); Birmingham (founded about thirteenth century); Coventry (founded by Leofric, Earl of Mercia, temp. Edward the Confessor); Erdburie (founded temp. Henry II. by Ralph de Sudley); Kenilworth (founded by Geoffrey de Clinton in 1122); Maxstoke (founded by William de Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon); Monk's Kirby (founded about time of William I.); Shortley (founded by William, Lord Zouch of Harringworth, in 1381); Studley (first founded temp. Stephen by Peter Corbicon); Thellesford (founded in 1214 by Sir William Lucy of Charlecote); Warmington (founded by Henry de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick); Warwick (founded by Henry de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick, temp. Henry VI.); Wolston (founded about temp. William I. or II.); Wootton Wawen (founded by the De Stafford family in the time of the Normans). Nunneries of Coventry (founded long

before the Priory, first noticed by Rous); Henwood; Nuneaton (founded temp. Stephen by Robert, Earl of Leicester); Pinley (founded by R. de Pilardinton temp. William I.); Polesworth (founded either by King Egbert or his son Ethelwulf for the reception of St. Modwena); and Wroxall (founded by Hugh de Hutton temp. Stephen). Churches of Astley (the spire of which was termed the lanthorn of Arden); Birmingham: St. Martin's (erected thirteenth century, but much altered by repairs); Balsall (erected by the Knights Templars, and but little altered); Beaudesert (rendered interesting by some remains of Saxon or early Norman architecture); Coleshill (fine specimen of decorated Gothic); Coventry: St. John's, St. Michael's (the spire, the admiration of ages, was designed and partly raised temp. Edward III.), and Trinity; Dunchurch, Kenilworth (beautiful Saxon door); Newnham Regis (in ruins); Nuneaton (built about 500 years); Shustoke (erected temp. Edward II.); Stoneleigh; Stratford; Warwick had five churches (none of which now exist)—St. Mary (rebuilt fourteenth century, through the munificence of the Earls of Warwick), and St. Peter (situated on the east gate of the town, erected temp. Henry VI.); and Wolston (erected at different early periods). Chapels of Baddesley Ensor: Barston; Birmingham, St. John's (founded in 1382, but rebuilt 1735); Bradwell; Caludon; Church Lawford; Fletchamsted; Guy's Cliff (founded by Richard Beauchamp); Hartshill (an old building, so denominated); Henley in Arden (chiefly erected temp. Edward III.); Knowle (erected by Walter Cooke temp. Richard II.); Stratford (belonging to the Guild of the Holy Cross); Warwick, St. James (over the west gate of the principal street, plain but impressive); and Wolston (founded by the Turiolles). Castles of Allesley (very few remains); Astley (surrounded by a moat); Baginton; Beaudesert (erected by Thurstane de Montfort shortly after the arrival of the Normans, totally down, but its site worth examining); Birmingham (stood near the church); Brandon; Brinklow (formerly possessed by the Mowbrays); Coleshill; Coventry (built by Ranulph, Earl of Chester); Hartshill; Kenilworth (founded by Geoffrey de Clinton); Kineton (where, according to tradition, King John held his court); Maxstoke (erected by William de Clinton temp. Edward III.); Rugby (built temp. Stephen); Studley; and Warwick (the first fortification here built by Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred, in 915). Mansions of Clopton House; Compton Wynyate; and Offchurch Bury (part of considerable antiquity). Caves at Guy's Cliff, where Guy lived "like a palmer poore," and "hewed with his own hands."

PRESENT STATE AND APPEARANCE.

Rivers.—Alne, Anker, Arrow, Avon, Blythe, Cole, Leam, Rea, Stour, Tame.

Inland Navigation.—Ashby-de-la-Zouch Canal; the Avon, made

navigable for vessels of 40 tons in 1637; Bilston Canal; Birmingham Old Canal; Birmingham and Fazely Canal; Coventry Canal, of great importance; Oxford and Coventry Canal; Grand Trunk Canal; Stratford Canal; Warwick and Birmingham Canal; Warwick and Napton Canal; Worcester and Birmingham Canal.

Lakes.—Compton Verney; Hewell.

Eminences and Views.—Alveston, called by the late Dr. Perry the Montpelier of England; Barford, prospects eminently rich and various; Brailes, elevations commanding fine diversified prospects; Corley; Edgehill, beautiful views from it; Guy's Cliff, very romantic, and, according to Leland, "a place meet for the Muses"; Warwick Castle, every window commanding picturesque and diversified views; Welcombe Hills.

Natural Curiosities.—Birmingham chalybeate and several other springs; Ilmington chalybeate springs; Newnham Regis chalybeate spring, discovered 1579; Leamington Spa.

Public Edifices.—Alcester Market-hall; Free-school, founded temp. Elizabeth pursuant to the will of Walter Newport, Gent. Atherstone Free Grammar-school, founded in 1573 by Sir William Devereux, etc. Birmingham Barracks, erected in 1793; Bluecoat-school; Deaf and Dumb Institution, founded in 1813; Dispensary, erected 1808; Free-school, founded by Edward VI. in 1552; General Hospital, commenced in 1766; Navigation Office; Philosophical Society; Prison, built in 1806; Public Library, commenced in 1792; Statue to Lord Nelson by Westmacott, erected in 1809; Theatre. Coventry, Bablake Hospital, founded in 1506 by Thomas Bond, Mayor of the City; Barracks, erected 1793; County Hall, erected 1785; Cross, erected in 1423, rebuilt 1539, destroyed; Draper's Hall, rebuilt 1775; Free-school, founded temp. Henry VIII. by Mr. John Hales; Gaol, erected 1772; Grey Friar's Hospital, founded in 1529 by Mr. William Ford, of the City; St. Mary's Hall, of great antiquity and curiosity; Mayor's Parlour. Dunchurch Free Grammar-school, founded in 1708 by Francis Boughton, Esq. Henley-in-Arden Cross, of great antiquity. Nuneaton Free-school, founded 6 Edward VI. Polesworth Free-school, founded by Sir Francis Nethersole, Knt. Rugby Free Grammar-school, founded 1567 by Lawrence Sheriff, grocer, of London, one of the first classical seminaries in the kingdom; Free-school, founded in 1707 by Richard Elborow, Gent. Stratford Grammar-school, founded temp. Henry VI. by Mr. Jolepe, kept in the Guildhall; Guildhall, erected towards the close of the thirteenth century; Town-hall, erected in 1768. Sutton Coldfield Free-school, founded by Bishop Harman temp. Henry VIII, schoolhouse rebuilt 1728. Warwick Bridewell; Bridge over the Avon, of stone, erected 1789; County Gaol; County Hall, erected 31 George II.; Court-house, or Town-hall, rebuilt soon after the fire in 1694; Gateways, at east and west ends of the principal

street, very ancient ; both support a church or chapel ; Grammar-school, founded by Henry VIII. ; Market-house.

[1825, *Part I.*, pp. 125-130.]

Seats.—Warwick Castle, Earl of Brooke and Warwick, Lord-Lieutenant ; Allesley Park, James Beck, Esq. ; Alrescot, T. Biddulph, Esq. ; Alveston House, Sir Gray Skipwith, Bart. ; Amington Hall, C. E. Repington, Esq. ; Ansley Hall, John Newdigate-Ludford, Esq. ; Ansty Hall, H. C. Adams, Esq. ; Arbury Hall, F. Newdigate, Esq. ; Astley Castle, F. Newdigate, jun., Esq. ; Aston Hall, James Watt, Esq. ; Baddesley Clinton Hall, Edward Ferrers, Esq. ; Baginton Hall, Rev. Mr. Price ; Barford, C. Mills, Esq. ; Barrells House, Henley-in-Arden, R. Knight, Esq. ; Baxterley, John Boulton, Esq. ; Berkswell Hall, Sir John Eardley-Eardley-Wilmot, Bart. ; Bilton Hall, J. B. Simpson, Esq. ; Bilton House, Edward Vernon, Esq. ; Bilton Lodge, A. Hume, Esq. ; Birdingbury Hall, Sir Theophilus Biddulph, Bart. ; Blyth Hall, T. R. West, Esq. ; Bonehill House, E. Peel, Esq. ; Bourton Hall, John Shuckburgh, Esq. ; Brandon House, Baroness Grey de Ruthyn ; Brownsover House, Lady Leigh ; Caldecote Hall, late Hon. J. Bowes ; Castle Bromwich Hall, Viscount Newport ; Charlecote, George Lucy, Esq., M.P. ; Charter House, Coventry, Edward Inge, Esq. ; Clopton House, H. Wyatt, Esq. ; Combe Abbey, Earl of Craven ; Compton Verney, Lord Willoughby de Broke ; Compton Winyate, Marquis of Northampton ; Coton House, Abraham Grimes, Esq. ; Coughton, Sir George Courtenay Throckmorton, Bart. ; Coughton Court, Thomas Moore, Esq. ; Duddeston House, Samuel Galton, Esq. ; Eathorpe, Robert Vyner, Esq. ; Edgbaston Hall, Dr. Johnstone ; Farnborough Hall, William Holbech, Esq. ; Four Oaks Hall, Sir Edward Cradock Hartopp, Bart. ; Foxcote, Francis Canning, Esq. ; Grendon, Sir George Chetwynd, Bart. ; Goldicote House, G. Smith, Esq. ; Guy's Cliff, Bertie Greatheed, Esq. ; Hams Hall, Charles Bowyer Adderley, Esq. ; Hatton, Rev. Dr. Parr ; Hatton Grove Park, Lord Dormer ; Hawkeswell, Coventry, F. Parrott, Esq. ; Hewell Hall, Earl of Plymouth ; Holbrook Grange, John Caldecott, Esq. ; Honington Hall, Gore Townsend, Esq. ; Hounds Hill, E. Sheldon, Esq. ; Idlicote, S. Peach, Esq. ; Ladbroke, William Palmer, Esq. ; Larches, S. T. Galton, Esq. ; Leamington Hastings, Sir Charles Wheler, Bart. ; Leamington Priors, M. Wise, Esq. ; Longbridge House, near Warwick, William Staunton, Esq. ; Lower Eatington Hall, E. J. Shirley, Esq. ; Malverne Hall, H. G. Lewis, Esq. ; Maxstoke Castle, W. Dilke, Esq. ; Merevale Hall, D. S. Dugdale, Esq., M.P. ; Meriden Hall, Wriothesley Digby, Esq. ; Middleton Hall, F. Lawley, Esq., M.P. ; Moxhull Hall, Hon. Berkeley Noel ; Myton House, S. E. Steward, Esq. ; Newbold Pacey, William Little, Esq. ; Newbold Comyn, Edward Willes, Esq. ; Newbold Revel, Lady Skipwith ; Newnham Paddox, Earl of Den-

high; Offchurch Bury, Mrs. Knightley; Over Whitacre, Rev. Robert Sadler; Packington Hall, Earl of Aylesford; Packwood House, — Featherstone, Esq.; Radway, F. S. Miller, Esq.; Ragley Park, Marquis of Hertford; Rugby, Abraham Caldecott, Esq.; Shuckburgh Park, Sir F. Shuckburgh, Bart.; Shustoke, Edward Croxall, Esq.; Springfield, Joseph Boulton, Esq.; Stivichall Hall, Colonel Gregory; Stoneleigh Abbey, J. Chandos Leigh, Esq.; Stoney Thorpe, late Mrs. Fauquier; Studley House, Miss Chambers; Studley Castle, F. Holyoake, Esq.; Sutton Coldfield, S. F. S. Perkins, Esq.; Upton House, Edward Morant Gale, Esq.; Walton Hall, Lady Mordaunt; Warwick Priory, Rev. H. Wise; Weddington Hall, Lionel Place, Esq.; Welcombe Lodge, George Lloyd, Esq.; Wellesbourne House, C. Dewes, Esq.; Weston House, Earl of Clonmel; Whitley Abbey, Viscount Hood; Woodcote House, Mrs. Holbech; Woolston House, Mrs. Scott; Wotton Hall, Dowager Lady Smythe; Wroxall Abbey, Christopher Roberts Wren, Esq.

Produce.—Freestone, limestone, marl, coal, iron-stone, blue flag-stone, blue clay; barley, oats, peas, beans, turnips.

Manufactures.—Hardware, watches, horn combs, worsted, calicoes and cottons, needles, flax, linen yarn, ribbons, cutlery, toys, guns, swords, brass-foundry, iron, hats, buttons, buckles, leather.

HISTORY.

A.D. 50, Ostorius first visited the Arden of this county. He led his troops from the banks of the southern Ouse, taking in his progress the course of the Watling Street. He constructed forts and entrenched camps along the banks of the Avon and Severn.

A.D. 757, a sanguinary battle was fought at Seckington between Cuthred, King of Wessex, and Ethelwald, King of Mercia, in which the latter was treacherously slain by one of his own officers named Beornred.

A.D. 915, Ethelfleda, the celebrated daughter of King Alfred, erected a fortification termed "the Dungeon" at Warwick, suited to the ferocious temper of the age.

A.D. 926, the celebrated Guy, Earl of Warwick, according to tradition, after slaying the gigantic Dane, Colebrand, retired to a place since called Guy's Cliff.

A.D. 1016, when Canute and Edric invaded Mercia, Edric destroyed many towns, among which the nunnery at Coventry fell a prey to his ferocity.

A.D. 1147, the Earl of Chester took an active part on the side of the Empress Maud, and being repulsed at Lincoln, hastened towards his castle at Coventry, but Stephen had already possessed himself of it. On this the Earl promptly "raised a fort" for the purpose of besieging the hostile occupiers of his mansion; but after an obstinate

conflict, in which Stephen himself was hurt, the earl (desperately wounded) was compelled to retreat.

A.D. 1153, upon the arrival of Henry, Duke of Normandy, Gundred, Countess of Warwick, turned out of Warwick Castle the soldiers belonging to Stephen and gave up the place to the Duke, who was shortly after King Henry II.

A.D. 1172, upon the rebellion of Prince Henry (whom his father had caused to be crowned), Warwick Castle was garrisoned for Henry II.

A.D. 1222, on St. Andrew's Day many churches, chapels, and houses overthrown by a violent tempest. Scarcely any person escaped free from harm. A knight, his wife, and eight men, by the fall of his house at Pillerton, were killed.

A.D. 1263, William Mauduit, Earl of Warwick, with his Countess were surprised in Warwick Castle by a treacherous practice of the rebels, who then possessed Kenilworth Castle. The walls were thrown down lest the Royalists should make any use of it. The earl and countess were carried prisoners to Kenilworth Castle.

A.D. 1266, when Henry III. had prepared for the siege of Kenilworth Castle, he made the general rendezvous for his whole army at Warwick, and hence marching thitherward, fixed his tent and begirt it round. He went against Simon de Montfort in much military pomp at the head of an army, of which the posse comitatus of Warwickshire formed a part. Simon de Montfort, so arrogant while unopposed, now proved his cowardice to be equal to his cruelty by secretly withdrawing to France, and naming Henry de Hastings Governor of the castle. The king after a most arduous siege of six months took possession of the castle.

A.D. 1278, a costly and gallant tournament held at Kenilworth. The knights were one hundred in number, and many were foreigners of distinction, who entered England for the purpose of displaying their chivalry on this occasion. The Earl of March was the promoter of the festival, and was the principal challenger of the tilt-yard. The ladies were the same number, and as an instance of the splendour with which they were attired, it is recorded that they wore silken mantles, etc.

A.D. 1311, Piers Gaveston, the assuming favourite of Edward II., was seized at Deddington, co. Oxford, by Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, whom he had branded with the epithet of "the black hound of Arden," and was hurried to Blacklow Hill where he was beheaded.

A.D. 1397, when the trial of arms was to have taken place between the Dukes of Hereford and Norfolk at Coventry, the former nobleman lodged at Baginton Castle, and hence he issued on the morning of the projected contest, armed at all points and mounted upon his white courser, "barded with blue and green velvet, gorgeously

embroidered with swans and antelopes of goldsmith's work." The latter lodged at Caludon Castle, whence he proceeded to the place of trial "on a horse barded with crimson velvet, embroydered with lions of silver and mulberry-trees," his rebus, alluding to the name of Mowbray.

A.D. 1404, Henry IV. held a Parliament at the Priory, Coventry, which was called "Parliamentum Indocorum," and from sitting in which all lawyers were prohibited.

A.D. 1411, Prince Henry, afterwards Henry V., arrested at Coventry Priory by John Horneby, Mayor of the City.

A.D. 1436, Henry VI. visited Coventry, and kept his Christmas at Kenilworth.

A.D. 1450, Henry VI. was at Coventry, when he made their first sheriffs.

A.D. 1456, Henry VI. and his queen visited Coventry Priory.

A.D. 1458, a Parliament held at Coventry, called "Paliamentum Diabolicum." It passed attainders against Richard, Duke of York, the Earls of March (afterwards Edward IV.), Salisbury, and Warwick.

A.D. 1460, when a strong power under the Earl of Warwick and the Earl of March, afterwards Edward IV., proceeded from London in search of the Royalists, the Lancastrians were quartered in Coventry, but quitted that city shortly after, and the Battle of Northampton ensued.

A.D. 1465, Edward IV., who endeavoured to gain the goodwill of the citizens, with his queen kept his Christmas at Coventry.

A.D. 1468, Edward IV. marched towards Warwick, whereof the Earl of Warwick being advertised, he employed several persons to treat with him for a peace, unto which the king too credulously hearkening, rested secure in his camp at Wolvey, whilst spying the advantage, he came in the night and surprised him in his bed, from whence he took him prisoner to his castle at Warwick.

A.D. 1470, the Earl of Warwick, then a partisan of the Lancastrians, possessed himself of Coventry against Edward IV., who came to Gosford Green, but was refused admission by the citizens. Wherefore the king took away their privileges, and it cost the city 500 marks to get the sword again. The king, however, met with a friendly reception at Warwick. On Gosford Green the Earl of Rivers and his son John were beheaded by order of Sir John Conyers, a commander of the northern insurgents, which had obtained some success in Oxford.

A.D. 1474, Edward IV. kept the Feast of St. George at Coventry, and his ill-fated son Prince Edward was godfather to a child of the mayor.

A.D. 1485, Richard III. upon his march to Nottingham, came from Kenilworth to Maxstoke Castle, and commanded that part of the inner buildings should be taken down and carried to Kenilworth

Castle with all speed. The troops of the Earl of Richmond (afterwards Henry VII.) entered Atherstone on August 20. He halted there for the night, where a meeting took place between him and the two Stanleys, in which such measures of co-operation were concerted as occasioned the overthrow of Richard at Bosworth, on the 22nd. Immediately subsequent to that decisive battle, Henry VII. repaired to Coventry, and lodged in the mayor's house, on whom he conferred knighthood. The inhabitants presented him with £100 and a cup.

A.D. 1490, Coventry contributed the sum of £1,100 towards the tax levied for the King going into France.

A.D. 1492, Henry VII. visited Coventry, to see the plays acted by the Grey Friars, which he much commended.

A.D. 1499, Henry VII. and his queen visited Coventry, and were made a brother and sister of Trinity Guild.

A.D. 1510, Henry VIII. and Queen Katherine visited Coventry, when there were three pageants set forth—one at Jordan Well, with the nine orders of angels; one at Broadgate, with divers beautiful damsels; and one at Cross Cheaping; and so they passed on to the priory.

A.D. 1525, Princess Mary visited Coventry, on which occasion the merchants' pageant, superbly habited, was placed in Cross Cheaping to grace her arrival.

A.D. 1565, Queen Elizabeth visited Coventry, and was received with a variety of splendid shows and pageants. She also visited Kenilworth.

A.D. 1566, the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots was confined as a prisoner in the mayoress' parlour, Coventry. She was again brought there in 1569, and confined in the Bull Inn (on the site of which the barracks now stand).

A.D. 1572, Elizabeth entertained at Warwick in a most princely manner. She was also at Kenilworth and Compton.

A.D. 1575, Elizabeth most magnificently entertained at Kenilworth, by the Earl of Leicester, the particulars of which are well described by Laneham, an attendant on the Court. On her way thither, she was entertained by the same nobleman at Long Itchington, July 9.

A.D. 1617, James I. visited Coventry, at which time an oration was delivered by Dr. Philemon Holland, the well-known translator, on presenting him with a cup, out of which the King said he would always drink.

A.D. 1641, when Charles I. repaired to Leicester, after raising his standard at Nottingham, he demanded the attendance of the Mayor and Sheriffs of Coventry, but the popular party prevented their acceding to his desire. The Earl of Northampton, Recorder of the city, could only collect 400 persons friendly to the royal cause, upon which he judged it expedient to make a precipitate retreat. The ammunition in the town was seized, and removed by Lord

Brooke to Warwick Castle. In consequence of this treatment, the King's party planted cannon on Stivichall Hill, but effected nothing.

A.D. 1642, June 14, Colonel Purefoy's soldiers destroyed the Market Cross at Warwick, and defaced the monuments in the beautiful Chapel of the Beauchamps. In June and July Lord Brooke arrayed the Militia of the county, in pursuance of an order from Parliament. August 7, Warwick Castle, which had been garrisoned for the Parliament by Lord Brooke, was besieged, but the assailants were discomfited on the 23rd of the same month. On August 28, Caldecote Hall was attacked by Prince Rupert and Prince Maurice, at the head of eighteen troops of horse. Mr. Abbott, assisted only by eight men, besides his mother and her maids, defended the building, as it would appear, successfully against the fury of the assailants, and it is not known that any of the individuals were hurt. In October, Charles I. was entertained at Aston Hall for two nights, shortly previous to the Battle of Edgehill, by Sir Thomas Holt, Bart. On the 23rd was fought the celebrated Battle of Edgehill. The first hostile movement was made by the Royalists. Prince Rupert put the left wing of the Parliamentarians to flight. Their other wing was likewise routed and pursued, but their corps of reserve turned on the King's infantry and committed great slaughter. Lord Brooke's own regiment entirely broke the left of the King's army. Five thousand men are supposed to have fallen on this day. Charles I. was at Birmingham, but so active was the dislike entertained for him by the inhabitants, that when his majesty quitted the town, they seized the carriages containing the royal plate, and conveyed them to Warwick Castle. The Earl of Essex marched to Coventry, which city was well garrisoned by the Parliament. Many of the women of the city "went by companies into the great park to fill up the quarries, that they might not at a future period harbour the enemy. They were collected together by sound of a drum, and marched in military order, with mattocks and spades, under the command of an amazon named Adderley, with an Herculean club upon her shoulder, and were conducted from work by one Mary Herbert, who carried a pistol in her hand, which she discharged as a signal of dismissal." Prince Rupert, with a detachment of 2,000 men, was ordered to open a communication between Oxford and York. At Birmingham a single company of foot, aided by a troop of horse from Lichfield, denied him entrance, and it was a considerable time before he took possession of the town.

A.D. 1642-43, a party of Royalists stationed at Stratford, were driven out of the town by a superior Parliamentary force under Lord Brooke.

A.D. 1643, June 22, Queen Henrietta Maria, at the head of 3,000 foot, and 1,500 horse, besides waggons and artillery, marched to Stratford, where she was met by Prince Rupert. After sojourning

at New Place, the former abode of Shakespeare, she went, July 13, to Kineton, to meet the King,* and from thence to Oxford. Warwick Castle, under the Governor, Colonel Bridges, held out against the King's forces.

A.D. 1646, Compton Wynyate House garrisoned by the Parliament, and the neighbouring church destroyed, but on the Restoration, rebuilt.

A.D. 1659, the citizens of Coventry rose up against the soldiers and disarmed them.

A.D. 1662, July 22, the Earl of Northampton, accompanied by many neighbouring gentry, and attended by the county troops, made the first breach in the walls of Coventry by order of Charles II. The work of demolition employed nearly 500 men for three weeks and three days.

A.D. 1687, James II. was at Coventry.

A.D. 1688, Edgbaston Hall (which had formerly been garrisoned for the Parliament) was burnt down by the populace, in the days immediately antecedent to the Revolution, lest it should be used as a place of refuge for Papists.

A.D. 1791, July 14, a riot occurred at Birmingham, in which the meeting-house belonging to the celebrated Dr. Priestley was burnt, together with his house, valuable MSS. and philosophical apparatus. Mr. Hutton, the historian, lost many thousand pounds' worth of property, particularly his library. The whole damage moderately estimated at £60,000.

S. T.

[1825, *Part I.*, pp. 224-228.]

EMINENT NATIVES.

Ainge, Francis, Stratford, baptized 1629, ob. 1767, aged 137 years and about 15 days.

Arden, Edward, Catholic, executed for a plot against Elizabeth, Parkhall, 1532.

Bird, John, Bishop of Bangor and Chester, Coventry (ob. 1556).

Bishop, William, Romish exile writer (living 1615).

Boulton, Matthew, ingenious mechanic, Birmingham, 1728.

Byfield, Nicholas, Puritanical writer on divinity (ob. 1622).

Carte, Thomas, the eminent historian, Clifton, 1686.

Cave, Edward, projector of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Newton, 1691.

Claridge, Richard, writer among the Society of Friends, Farmborough, 1649.

* On this occasion a silver medal was struck, of which the only known specimen is in the cabinet of William Staunton, Esq., Longbridge House, near Warwick. It has been several times engraved, but its most correct representation is given in the title-page of "Two Copies of Verses" written on the same Royal meeting, which have been printed for private distribution from the original MSS. found amongst Sir William Dugdale's papers, by William Hamper, Esq., F.S.A.

Clarke, Samuel, industrious writer, and one of the 2,000 ejected ministers, Woolston, 1599.

Clopton, Sir Hugh, Lord Mayor of London in 1491, Stratford.

Cockaine, Sir William, Lord Mayor of London in 1619, Baddesley.

Compton, Henry, Bishop of London, eminent prelate, Compton Wynyate, 1632.

Coppe, Abiezer, successively Presbyterian, Anabaptist, and most wild enthusiast, Warwick, 1619.

Coventry, Vincent de, learned Franciscan and author, Coventry (flourished 1250).

Coventry, Walter de, Benedictine, English historian, Warwick (flourished 1217).

Coventry, William de, author and Carmelite, Coventry (flourished 1360).

Cranford, James, eminent divine, Coventry (ob. 1657).

Croft, William, eminent musician, Nether Easington, 1657.

Davenport, Christopher, Popish chaplain to Queen Henrietta-Maria, Coventry, 1598.

Davenport, John, brother to preceding, Nonconformist divine, Coventry, 1597.

Digby, John, Earl of Bristol, distinguished ambassador and poet, Coleshill, 1580.

Drax, Thomas, a pious and excellent preacher, Stoneleigh (ob. about 1616).

Drayton, Michael, author of the "Polyolbion," Hartshill, 1563.

Dugdale, Sir William, historian and antiquary, Shustoke, 1605.

Foster, Samuel, mathematician and astronomer, Coventry (ob. 1652).

Green, Thomas, actor, who introduced Shakespeare to the stage, Stratford.

Greville, Fulke, Lord Brooke, poet, and patron of learning, Beauchamp Court, 1554.

Grew, Nehemiah, philosopher and physician, Coventry, 1628.

Grew, Obadiah, father of preceding, a Presbyterian, who opposed the death of Charles I., Atherstone, 1607.

Harrington, John Lord, the celebrated scholar and pious nobleman, Combe Abbey (ob. 1614).

Hill, William, annotator on Dionysius' "Periegetes," Cudworth, 1619.

Hinckley, John, born a Puritan, but afterwards imbibed more rational views, Coton, 1617.

Holyoake, Francis, lexicographer and loyalist, Nether Whitacre, 1567.

Holyoake, Thomas, son of preceding, author of a Latin dictionary, Southam, 1616.

Jago, Richard, amiable divine and pleasing poet, Beaudesert, 1715.

Jolepe, Mr., benefactor to his native town, Stratford (temp. Henry VI.).

Johnson, Samuel, very learned, but eccentric, proud, violent and troublesome divine, and most furious enemy to Catholics; a man of undaunted courage, great obstinacy and unwearied industry, but ill-used, 1649.

Killingworth, John de, father of the astronomers of his age (flourished 1360), Killingworth.

Lench, William, benefactor to his native town, temp. Henry VIII., Birmingham.

Maklesfield, William, General of the Order of Dominicans (flourished temp. Benedict XI.), Coventry.

Oken, Thomas, benefactor to his native town, etc., Warwick (ob. 1572).

Olney, Sir John, Lord Mayor of London in 1446, Coventry.

Overbury, Sir Thomas, courtier and scholar (poisoned by Countess of Somerset), Compton Scorfen,* 1581.

Palmer, Julius, burnt at Newbury, Coventry.

Perkins, William, whose writings in favour of Calvinism led to the assembling of the famous Synod of Dordt, Marston, 1558.

Plantagenet, Edward, last heir male of that royal family, Warwick Castle (beheaded 1499).

Rogers, Daniel, statesman and Latin poet, Aston, 1540.

Rogers, Thomas, divine and author, Bishops Hampton, 1660.

Rouse, John, the Warwickshire antiquary, Warwick (ob. 1491).

Shakespeare, William, the immortal bard, the founder of the English drama, Stratford, 1564.

Sheriff, Laurence, founder of Rugby Free Grammar School, Brownsover.

Smallbroke, Richard, Bishop of Litchfield and Coventry, Birmingham, 1672.

Smart, Peter, divine, and a conspicuous opposer of Church ceremonies (ob. 1642).

Smith, John, divine, 1563.

Somerville, William, author of "The Chase," a poem, Edstoft, 1692.

Southern, Thomas, a very pleasing and fascinating dramatic writer, Stratford-upon-Avon,† about 1662.

Stratford, John de, Archbishop of Canterbury (ob. 1348).

Stratford, Robert de, Bishop of Chichester, brother of the preceding, Stratford (ob. 1362).

* Anthony Wood, who has been followed by others. Bigland makes him a native of Bourton-on-the-Hill, co. Gloucester. He was at least educated in the neighbourhood of Compton.

† Anthony Wood. Cibber, in his "Lives of the Poets," asserts that he was born in Ireland. Wood blunders in other parts of his account of him; but it is doubtful which is exact.

Stratford, Ralph, Bishop of London, nephew of the preceding, Stratford (ob. 1354).

Tipper, John, author of the "Lady's Diary," an almanac, Coventry (ob. 1713).

Vesey, or Harman, John, Bishop of Exeter, Sutton Coldfield (ob. 1555, aged 103).

Wagstaffe, Thomas, a nonjuring Bishop, author of an able vindication of Charles I. to prove him the author of "Eikon Basilike," 1645.

Wanley, Humphrey, eminent antiquary, Coventry, 1671-72.

Whalley, Peter, divine and critic, Rugby, 1722.

Willughby, Francis, eminent naturalist, and intimate friend of Ray, 1635.

Wolstan, St., Bishop of Worcester, Itchington (ob. 1095).

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS.

In Alcester Church is the tomb of "Sir Foulke Greyvyl" and his wife Lady Elizabeth.

In Ansley Hall Park is a Chinese temple, built from a design by Sir W. Chambers, and in a cell beneath is preserved a monument to one of the Purefoys, brought from Caldecote in 1766. In a sequestered valley is a hermitage formed from the stones of an ancient oratory.

In the dining-room of Arbury Hall is the top of a sarcophagus, brought from Rome by Sir Roger Newdigate, on which is sculptured the marriage of Bacchus and Ariadne. The ceiling of the saloon is worked in imitation of that of Henry VII.'s chapel at Westminster. In a room adjoining the saloon is the well-known picture engraved in Dugdale, commemorating the achievements of Sir John Astley, of which Dugdale has given an account. Here died, in 1806, aged 86, Sir Roger Newdigate, the founder of the Newdigate Prize Poem at Oxford.

At Astley Castle resided the turbulent and factious Duke of Suffolk, who, according to Dugdale, was hid in a large hollow tree there by his park-keeper, but was betrayed by him for a bribe. In the hall are shown a heavy inlaid table and a rude and cumbrous chair as having belonged to the Duke. The ancient choir is now the body of the church. In it are some antique tombs.

At Atherstone resided Dr. Thomas, the continuator of Dugdale's "Antiquities." The church belonged to the Friary, but by additions is much altered, detracting from its original beauty. The chancel of the Friary Church was in 1573 appropriated to the Free Grammar School, and is still dedicated to the same purpose.

At Balsall the Knights Templars had a preceptory.

At Barton-on-the-Heath resided Robert Dover, who instituted the Cotswold games in 1600. Near this place is a stone called the

"Fourshire Stone," dividing the Counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Warwick and Oxford.

Bidford afforded a frequent convivial retreat to the great native of the county, Shakespeare. A traditional tale relating to this place is given in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1794, part ii., p. 1067.

At Bilton Hall resided the poet Addison, who purchased it as a lure to the Countess of Warwick, to whom he was then paying his court. The furniture used by Addison still remains, and the pictures, partly selected by his judgment or procured as a tribute to his feelings, yet ornament the walls and occupy precisely the same stations as when he was wont to pause and admire them. Seldom has the residence of a poet had the fortune to be so preserved for the gratification of posterity.* There are several family portraits.

At Birmingham resided the celebrated Dr. Priestley, whose house, etc., was destroyed in 1791, and Dr. Ash, the eminent physician, whose house was afterwards converted into a chapel. Here Baskerville, originally a stone-cutter, in 1756 had a printing-office; his first attempt was a 4to. edition of Virgil. In 1791 a beautiful window was placed over the communion table of St. Paul's Chapel, representing the conversion of St. Paul, by that celebrated artist Francis Eginton. It cost 400 guineas.

Blacklow Hill is rendered memorable by the summary execution of Piers Gaveston, which is recorded by an ancient inscription on a part of the rocky hill.

At Blythe Hall resided that distinguished antiquary, Sir W. Dugdale, who died there, February 16, 1685.

At Brinklow the family of Rouse the antiquary long resided.

In Caldecote Church is the monument of Mr. Abbott, who so successfully defended Caldecote Hall in 1642. He died February 2, 1648.

Cave's Inn, on the Watling Street, otherwise Caves-in-the-Hole, so termed from its low situation, was kept by the family of Cave for several generations. Its site was formerly occupied by a priory called Hallywell, as is shown by Mr. Harper in the "*Archæologia*," vol. xix.

Charlecote will be viewed with considerable interest as the residence of Sir Thomas Lucy, the presumed prototype of Shakespeare's "Justice Shallow." In the church, among others of the family, are interred the immortalized Sir Thomas and his lady.

At Clopton House is a bed said to have been given to Sir H. Clopton by Henry VII.

In Coleshill Church are many memorials of the Clintons and Digbys.

Combe Abbey was the first settlement of Cistercian monks, co.

* Another instance is Thomson's house at Richmond. See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1824, part ii., p. 443.

Warwick. The present edifice is particularly rich in portraits of the Stuart family, among which, in the great gallery, is one of Charles II. at the age of fourteen, in armour richly studded with gold. The breakfast-room was fitted up for the reception of Princess Elizabeth, afterwards Queen of Bohemia. In the north parlour are the portraits of Frederick V. of Bohemia; his Queen Elizabeth, by Houtherst; and the heroic James, Duke of Richmond, by Vandyck, several of whose pieces are in the Vandyck Room. In the yellow drawing-room is a portrait of the celebrated Duchess of Cleveland, by Lely; and a representation of Christ and St. John, in a landscape, by Rubens. In the gilt-parlour are two Rembrandts. In the beauty-parlour are twenty-two portraits of ladies.

Coventry was visited by the plague in 1350, 1564, 1574, 1578, 1603 and 1625. April 17, 1607, the streams which water this city overflowed and destroyed much property. July 22, 1750, "was seen in the air, moving from the west to east, a body of fire about 20 inches round, and in its motion had a luminous tail about 2 yards long." In March, 1772, there occurred in Gosford Street a curious instance of combustion of the human body. (See the *Annual Register* for that year.) November 9, 1800, the river Sherbourn overflowed, doing great mischief. In one of the churches is, or was, a ludicrous epitaph to Captain Tully, swordbearer to the city, who died in 1724, aged 105, having married ten wives. This city was made toll-free by Leofric, founder of the abbey, upon his Countess's performance of an indecent action, which upon the first glance appears legendary; and Dr. Pegge has proved it an idle tradition. In a house at a window was a statue of Peeping Tom, relating to this transaction. In Trinity Church is the monument of Philemon Holland, the well-known translator, who prided himself on writing a folio volume with one pen. Of this parish was Vicar Nathaniel Wanley, the father of the Antiquary. Of St. Michael's Church was Vicar Dr. Grew, father of Grew the Philosopher. The remains of Spon Hospital, founded by Hugh, Earl of Chester, temp. Henry II., are parts of the Chapel and Gateway, since converted into ordinary habitations. At the Free School was educated Sir William Dugdale, the Historian. The present schoolroom is part of the Chapel of St. John's Hospital, and the school-forms are the original seats from the choir of the White Friars' Church.

Of Exhall, Dr. Thomas, the continuator of Dugdale's "Antiquities," was vicar for many years.

Fulbroke Park is said to have been the scene of that memorable indiscretion which fortunately caused "the Bard of Avon" to fly his native county.

Of Guy's Cliff Chantry, Rous the Antiquary was priest. Here was interred Guy, Earl of Warwick. Henry V. visited it, and determined to found a chantry, which was never done. Here is an

ancient statue of Guy. Shakespeare is supposed to have made this place his favourite retirement.

Hatton Parsonage House acquires considerable interest from having been the residence of the late learned Dr. Parr, who much beautified the church.

In Knowle Chapel, over the rood-loft, are some remains of paintings, etc. (See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1793, p. 419.)

The furniture of Newnham Regis Church was remarkably handsome, and on the walls were painted, in fresco, the offerings of the wise men ; the taking of the Saviour from the Cross ; and full proportions of the four Evangelists.

At Poleshill the first religious house in the county was established.

At Radway is cut on the side of a hill the figure of a horse, called, from the tint of the soil, the "Red Horse." It is rudely designed, and is trivial when compared to the "White Horse" of Berkshire.

In Rugby Churchyard are buried several of the family of Cave, among whom is Joseph, the father of Edward, the projector of this Miscellany. Over his remains is an inscription to him and his son Edward, written by Dr. Hawkesworth. In the Free Grammar School have been educated a host of worthies in every department of literature and honour, among whom are Edward Cave ; the venerable historian of Surrey, William Bray, Esq., who is believed to be the oldest Rugbeian now living ; Sir Ralph Abercromby, the hero of Egypt ; Sir Henry Halford, Bart., physician to his majesty ; Dr. Butler, the learned editor of "*Æschylus*"; Dr. William Sleath, Headmaster of Repton School ; Dr. James Sleath, Highmaster of St. Paul's ; and Parkhurst, the Lexicographer.

At Shottery a cottage is yet shown as the identical tenement in which Anne Hathaway resided when Shakespeare "won her to his love." It contained several articles said to have belonged to Shakespeare ; but none remain.

In Shustoke Church lie the remains of Sir William Dugdale, the Antiquary, and his lady ; and their son, Sir John.

At Southam, February 26, 1741-42, a terrible fire destroyed many houses and goods of poor people.

In Stoneleigh Church are several monuments to the Leigh family, among which is that sacred to Alice, Duchess Dudley, and her daughter.

At Stratford-on-Avon the Bishops of Worcester had a park. In 36 and 37 Elizabeth it experienced two dreadful fires ; and a third, July 9, 1614. This place has witnessed throngs of visitors anxious to tread the ground which Shakespeare's feet had pressed in boyhood, and to contemplate the spot hallowed by his ashes. The festival in honour of the Bard here instituted by Mr. Garrick in 1769 (and termed "the jubilee") will never be forgotten. The house in which Shakespeare was born is situate in Henley Street. In the Grammar

School he probably received his early tuition. At New Place he afterwards resided; here he is supposed to have written the "Tempest" and "Twelfth Night"; and here he died, April 23, 1616, that being his 52nd birthday. The celebrated mulberry-tree planted by him was cut down and used as firewood in 1756 by the Rev. F. Gastrell, the then unfeeling owner of the spot, but whose conduct in 1759 was still more disgraceful. In front of the Town Hall is a bust of the bard, and within a portrait given by Garrick. Stratford Church abounds with fine monuments; that of Shakespeare, the bust of which is his best accredited likeness, is familiar to all from repeated engravings.

Of Sutton Coldfield Free School, Laurence Noel, whom Camden celebrates for his learning, was the first master, but, through persecution, held it only a year.

At Walton Hall were found, in 1774, three skulls lying in a row, with two Saxon jewels set in gold.

Nearly the whole town of Warwick was destroyed by fire in 1694. The damage computed at £90,600. In the Castle resided Fulke, Lord Brooke, the friend of Sir P. Sydney. In the cedar drawing-room is a half-length of Charles I., and several other portraits by Vandyck; and Ignatius Loyola, by Rubens. The State bed-chamber is hung with curious tapestry made at Brussels in 1604; the costly bed-furniture belonged to Queen Anne. This room also contains some portraits of eminence, and fine antique vases. In a gallery leading to the Chapel is a large picture of Charles I. on horseback, attended by a person holding his helmet. In the gallery of armour is a fine collection of Old English mail. In a greenhouse is repositied a very large alabaster antique Bacchanalian vase, presented to the Earl of Warwick by Sir W. Hamilton. (See it engraved in *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1800, part ii., p. 1225.)* In a room attached to the Cæsar's tower are a sword, shield, and helmet, attributed to the champion Guy. St. Mary's Church, as far as the choir, burnt in 1694. In this church are many beautiful monuments. Here are buried Fulke, Lord Brooke, the friend of Sydney; John Rous, the Antiquary; and Thomas Cartwright, whom Camden calls "inter Puritanos antesignanus," and whom the then Earl of Leicester thought it no small policy to court. The grand entrance to the Chapel of Our Lady† is through a vestibule highly ornamented. The altar-screen is enriched with a basso-relievo, representing the Annunciation of the Virgin, and on each side is a shrine of delicate and elaborate workmanship. Near the centre of the chapel is the monument of the founder (who died 1439), pronounced inferior to none in England, except that of

* Some bronze copies of this vase, of the size of the original, have recently been made by the enterprising Mr. Thomason of Birmingham.

† A very interesting account of the Beauchamp monuments at this place was published in 1804 in the "Bibliotheca Topographica Britannia."

Henry VII. in his chapel at Westminster. Behind the altar is a narrow apartment, called the Library of Rous the Antiquary.

The founder of Weston House was William Sheldon, the encourager of tapestry weavers when first introduced into England. Under his direction were woven a curious series of maps, consisting of three large pieces nearly 80 feet square, which were purchased in 1781 by Horace Walpole.

S. T.

The Neighbourhood of Stratford-upon-Avon.

[1794, *Part I.*, pp. 505-508.]

In Camden's account of Shugborough he has mentioned the *astroites*, or star-stones, found at that place. I beg leave to inform you that on Baden Hill, about a mile west from Stratford, an estate belonging to Lord Beauchamp near the village of Shottery, these stones are found in great plenty; some, in the shape of a mullet, appear as if curiously wrought by art; and others are found which seem as if they were several stones cemented together and finely jointed.

This hill rises with a gentle ascent from the river Avon opposite the mouth of the Stour, whence the summit is about half a mile. The lower declivity abounds with mineral springs of chalybeate water, the virtues of which were probably known in the time of the Romans. What suggested to me the idea is, after the enclosure of the field in the year 1786, a labourer of Stratford was digging a drain, in which he discovered a broken vessel and three brass Roman coins, one of which I was fortunate enough to procure. On the obverse side was a head, and on the reverse was the image of Moneta with her balance. I showed it to my worthy friend the late Rev. J. Greene, Rector of Welford, whose curiosity excited him to keep it himself. The fellow who found them was so ignorant and incurious that he did not search for any more, and even buried that piece of the vessel he dug up in the same place where he found it. On the south declivity of the hill opposite Stratford, and contiguous to the Belford and Evesham road, is an eminence which has much the appearance of a barrow or tumulus; and, about a quarter of a mile farther west, in the old enclosure belonging to Dodwell in 1777, in digging for limestone, six human skeletons were discovered, but neither weapons nor any other appendages. I would gladly have sent you some of the star-stones, but at this time have none by me.

Between the villages of Shottery (or Schotericke) and Bishopton, and about 300 yards distant from the chapel of the latter, is a spring of mineral water, impregnated with salt, sulphur, vitriol, and alum, which is a sovereign remedy for many disorders incident to the human body, both internal and external, as I myself, as well as many other people in the vicinity of Stratford, can testify from experience.

The learned Dr. Perry, author of "A View of the Levant," analyzed this water, and published a dissertation on its virtues, to which treatise I refer the curious inquirer for more particular information.

A mile north-west from Stratford is the ancient seat of Clopton, which has been possessed by a family of the same name from 20 Henry III. till the year 1753, when, for default of male issue, it devolved to Frances, only surviving daughter of Edward, son of Edward, eldest son of Sir John Clopton and Barbara his wife, sole daughter and heiress of Sir Edward Walker, Knt., Secretary at War, and Garter Principal King-at-Arms in the reigns of Kings Charles I. and II. The said Frances was married to John Parthericke, Esq., lord of the manor of Alderminster, second son of Edward Parthericke, Esq., of Eley. He died at Bath in April, 1783, and was buried in the Clopton vault in the Chapel of Our Lady, in the parish church of Stratford. His lady died October 21, 1792, and was buried the Friday sevensnight following, with great funeral pomp, in the same vault by her husband. She was the fifth descendant from Anne, the youngest daughter of William Clopton, Esq., who died A.D. 1592, and Anne, his wife, daughter of Sir George Griffith, Knt., who died in 1596. Their eldest daughter, Joyce, was married to George Carew, Baron Carew of Clopton, and Earl of Totness, who died without issue. The late Mrs. Parthericke dying without issue, the estate devolved to Skrymshire Boothby, Esq., grandson of Hugh, youngest surviving son of the aforementioned Sir John Clopton, who has now advertised the mansion-house and furniture to be let.

A mile north from Stratford, and contiguous to Clopton, are Welcombe Hills, which were, before the enclosure in 1775, a part of Stratford Field, and a common pasture for sheep. At that time they were purchased by the late John Lloyd, Esq., of Snitterfield, son of — Lloyd, who was son of Gamelion Lloyd, Esq., of Manchester. The aforesaid John dying in June, 1777, the estate descended to George Lloyd, Esq., his eldest son, who is the present possessor, who has repaired and fitted up the old ruinous mansion, and made it the place of his residence. He is making great alterations and improvements under the direction of Mr. Davenport, the situation being formed by nature to such advantage that it bids fair in a little time to vie with most seats in the county (see Plate I.). . . . On the highest eminence, which has traditionally the name of Castle Hill, on February 12, 1792, as some labourers were digging in order to plant fir-trees, about 14 inches from the surface of the ground, they discovered many human bones; one skeleton was quite perfect, in the skull of which was a piece of iron weapon, about 4 inches long, and something less than 1 inch wide, very much corroded with rust; and the bones had not long been exposed to the air before they mouldered into dust: that part of the teeth only which were above the socket, on which was the enamel, is perfectly sound, one of which

I have in my possession for the inspection of the curious. A few days after this discovery a person of Stratford went out of curiosity to the same spot, and found an ancient weapon, if I may so call it; the whole length was $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the top part resembled a sharp spike, 6 inches long, and little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch square, from the base of which issued two collateral branches curved downwards, the ends rudely wrought in the form of dragons' heads, below which was a socket, in which was probably fixed a wooden staff, or handle; what was its use, or the time when used, I must confess I am at a loss either to guess or determine. We are told that a dragon was the device on Prince Uther's standard (see Fig. 2).

In draining a morass contiguous to Welcombe, an old man, who is now in the almshouses at Stratford, in the year 1777, found a stone, or flint, exactly in the shape of that which Sir William Dugdale has engraved from Camden's "*Britannia*," in his account of Oldbury in the "*Antiquities of Warwickshire*." The old man preserved it for some years; but having a son, a barber, settled at Birmingham, he went to see him last spring, and left the antique curiosity with him.

The charnel-house adjoining to Stratford Church is the most ancient part of that sacred and venerable pile. The architecture of the arches and pillars appears to be Saxon, though some writers have informed us that there were no churches built of stone prior to the Norman Conquest; while others have told us that painting, glazing, and buildings of stone were introduced into this island by Bennet, a monk, long before that period. Sir William Dugdale tells us there was a monastery at this place, and that it was granted to St. Egwin, the third Bishop of Worcester, and founder of Evesham Abbey by Ethelard, the Viceroy or petty King of the province of Wicci. He likewise tells us the monastery was then situate where the church now is; but that judicious antiquary does not inform us how long it continued, nor in what manner it went to decay; therefore, my opinion is that it was at length annexed to a more potent house, probably that of Evesham; but the time when I cannot guess, unless it was in the Danish wars, which has some degree of probability. My conjecture is that it was ruined in those times, as was likewise the church, which I imagine to have been rebuilt in the time of King Edward the Confessor, for those reasons. There are the arms of that monarch, viz., a cross patonce between five doves, depicted on several mosaic bricks in the chancel. On another brick is depicted the arms of the Bishopric of Exeter, viz., two keys saltirewise impaled with a sword the point upwards. On another is the arms of the Bishop of Worcester, which are so plain and well known I need not give the blazon here. These matters considered, I look upon them as indubitable proofs that the edifice was erected about that time, because King Edward ascended the throne in 1045; and Leofric was consecrated to the see of Exeter in 1049, and continued till

1079. He was also Lord-Treasurer to the King. St. Wolstan was consecrated to the See of Worcester in 1060, and continued till 1097, which was the tenth year of William Rufus's reign; so that it seems highly probable that here was a church built under the patronage and protection of those three eminent personages, the prince and his favourite bishops, especially when we consider St. Wolstan was, at that period, lord of the town. Now, my conjecture is that the lower part of the charnel-house, where the bones are deposited, was the crypt of the original monastery, and perhaps the least decayed of the whole edifice, and therefore was left in its original state when the rest was rebuilt; and as it still remains, and the bones of the dead were progressively dug up as occasion occurred, and in process of time sanctified, and an oratory erected over them, where obits were celebrated, and a particular service and anniversary performed to pray for those departed souls to which those bones originally belonged, and were then separated by death; hence, perhaps, the derivation of the feast of All Souls' day in November. I once saw a query in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, which gave an account of a charnel-house in Yorkshire; the volume and page I have forgotten, but I remember the author desired an explanation of this mystery.* If the above conjecture is any way satisfactory, it will give me infinite pleasure; and if not I shall be thankful for the objections of your correspondents if my theory is ill-founded or wrong, for I am not such a bigot to my own opinion but that I can submit to superior judgment when guided by probability and the force of reason.

I have sent also a drawing (Fig. 3) of the State chair and footstool which was the property of the unfortunate King Charles I., the original of which is in the possession of Mr. Sands, of Wheelbarrow Castle, near Barton on the Heath, in Warwickshire. They are covered with purple velvet, richly laced and fringed with gold, and gilt nails. I was told that they were used on the scaffold at the horrid execution, and that His Majesty knelt on the stool when he received the fatal stroke; and the spots of blood yet remaining on the velvet seem to corroborate the story. Mr. Sands informed me that, after the King's decapitation, the chair and stool became the property of Bishop Juxon, who, during the usurpation, retired to his manor of Little Compton, in Gloucestershire; to which seat he conveyed the goods, where they remained at his decease, and became the property of his nephew and heir, whose son and heir was Sir William Juxon; who dying without issue, his effects became the property of his lady, who was afterwards married to Lord Viscount Fane, who again left her a widow. She dying in 1791, her effects were sold by auction, when the chair and stool were purchased by the above Mr. Sands, who has many other curiosities well worthy the

* The above article also noticed these at Stratford.

inspection of the virtuoso, the antiquarian, and connoisseur. Amongst the papers was an original letter, of King Charles II.'s own handwriting, to the Archbishop, immediately after the Restoration, the subject of which is concerning the state of the clergy. This letter is in possession of the Rector of Toddtenham.

You will receive, likewise, a drawing (Fig. 4) of the jack which King Charles II. wound up at Mr. Tomes's, of Long Marston, when he was in disguise after the defeat of his army at Worcester (see the account in Blount's "*Boscobel*"). The descendants of the same family still reside in the house. The present Mr. Tomes very politely showed me the jack, from which I made the drawing. It is now quite useless, and only kept as a relic.

About three or four years since, at Monk's Close, two miles and a half from Stratford, adjoining the London Road, was ploughed up an urn, in which was a great number of Roman coins, both gold and silver. I never saw but one of them, and that was of Maximus, who you know was elected emperor by the army in Britain. The greatest part of the coins fell into the hands of Boot, of Atherston on Stour, the noted agriculturist, who occupies the land.

Sir William Dugdale mentions an hermitage at Bridgetown, with a chapel, without informing us of the spot where it is situated; but this I discovered in the Clopton map, which I believe to have been the Cartul. de Clopton so often quoted by that great antiquary. It was on the west side the London Road, at the south end of the bridge, where Thomas Clopton, father of Sir John, or perhaps Sir John himself, built a large house, probably from the suggestions of Yarranton's "*England's Improvements*," who has given the cut of a magazine for corn, and a house and scheme for brewing of mum, on the very spot where this house is built. This scheme not succeeding, the house was afterwards converted into an inn, known by the sign of the Bear, which was the largest public inn in these parts, till it was ruined by the late Mr. Payton coming to the White Lion, from which time it went to decay, and was used as a warehouse till fitted up last year for the residence of a tenant, who rents one of the Clopton farms at this place.

Part of the bridge was destroyed by order of the Parliament in the Civil Wars, as appears by an order made for repairing the same at the Trinity Sessions in 1651, the expense of which amounted to the sum of £124, which sum for that purpose was ordered to be rated on the whole county. And it appears by an original paper in my possession that one arch was wholly taken down.

In 1637 the river Avon was made navigable to Stratford by a Mr. Sands, of Fladbury, as appears by a memorandum in the Stratford register. In October last I accompanied some friends from Stratford to Gloucester by water. We called at Fladbury, and went into the church, where I was in hopes to have found a monument to

the memory of the above Mr. Sands ; but there was no memorial of him to be obtained. The parish clerk, who keeps the public-house, is a very intelligent person. I asked him if he could point out to me the site of the ancient monastery which was given to St. Egwin by Ethelred, King of Mercia ; but he knew nothing of the matter, but said he remembered a chantry-house standing, and showed me the place. The ancient building was pulled down a few years ago, and a modern house erected on the spot. There were some ancient tombs and inscriptions in the church, which I should have been glad to have copied, but my friends would not allow me time. There were many ancient inscriptions in Strensham Church, where the celebrated Butler was baptized, but here I was in the same predicament as before.

JOHN JORDAN.

Alscott.

[1809, *Part I.*, p. 209.]

I send you a view of Alscott House, in Warwickshire, the seat of Mrs. West.

P. Q.

Aston.

[1795, *Part II.*, pp. 989-991.]

The church rests on four pointed arches, the columns alternately round and octagon, and above are clerestories. A pointed arch leads into the chancel.

In the nave are slabs for :

"Josiah Foster, A.M., vicar, Oct. 28, 1727. 60."

"Isaac Spooner, of Birmingham, 30 Nov., 1720. 56."

Against the south wall of the chancel an altar tomb, with alabaster figures of a man and woman. He is in cropped hair, a gorget of mail, plated armour, mitten gauntlets, studs on the knuckles, straps to mail shirt, lion looking up at his feet ; under his head a helmet, with a lion's head for crest. She rests her head on a double cushion, supported by angels ; is habited in a surcot, belt, pointed head-dress and veil, close mitre, long sleeves to wrist, cordon ; dogs hold up her mantle. At the north side of the tomb six angels hold shields, and between each pair are pendant shields, and at the feet of the tomb three angels also hold shields. On these several shields were, in Dugdale's time, painted these coats :

Two lions passant guardant, three times single—Erdington.

A cross engrailed—Mohun.

Two bars—Harcourt.

The lions quartering the cross engrailed. And on the shields at the feet the lions single twice, and impaling the bars. Barry of six twice single.

At the feet of this tomb is another, with the figure of a man in

curled flat hair, plated armour, scalloped shoulder-pieces, collar of roses, mail gorget; under his head a helmet held by angels. Crest: A headless peacock with a straight tail, sword and dagger at sides, and hound at feet; six angels on the north side, two at each end hold shields, which in Dugdale's time had the lions and bars.

On the north side of the chancel another tomb, with a knight in whiskers, pointed helmet, the front flat, studded with red and blue squares alternately, a large mail gorget, mail shirt appearing at the armpits, short gauntlets, mail not divided into fingers, roses at elbow-pieces, belt studded as the frontlet, mail skirts, and mail at the back of the legs; his head on a double cushion painted blue, a headless boar at his feet. His lady has such a head-dress as I never saw another instance of: A close gown and belt, falling ruffles, rings on the first, third, and fourth fingers of the right hand, third and fourth of left; her head on a tufted cushion held by angels; at her feet two dogs, one with a collar of bells, follow each other. At the sides of the tomb, shields in starred quatrefoils in two rows of six each, on the upper of which were in Dugdale's time: Erm., a fess cheque impaling two bars wavy between five estoiles (twice), also a saltire between two lions rampant, and in a bordure of roundels bendy of six. Also chequy a fess, also a saltire, also in chief three martlets; over it, on a fess, a lion passant guardant, and above all, on a bend cottised, three roundels.

The first coat is on the man's surcot.

These were the monuments of the Erdington family, who took their name from the manor of Erdington, in Aston parish, which they held from the reign of Henry II. to that of Edward IV., where is still an old mansion, with many coats-of-arms in the parlour windows, now or late the property of the Holdens. The south aisle of Aston Church was built by Henry Erdington, in the reign of Edward II., who married Joan Wolvey, of Wolvey, in the county of Warwick. His daughter married Sir Hugh Holt; and his great-grandson, Sir Thomas Erdington, Knight, married Joyce Mohun, and founded in the south aisle of this church, 27 Henry VI., a chantry of St. Mary Magdalene, for one priest to celebrate daily for the knight himself and wife. After 7 Edward IV. no mention of him occurs; but four years after the manor belonged to George, Duke of Clarence, and Sir William Harcourt was his steward. . . .

From the Harcourt arms occurring on both these monuments, the first of them may be ascribed to Sir Thomas Erdington, in the reign of Richard II., or his son and namesake in that of Henry IV., and the second to another of the same family.

To whom the monument on the north side of the chancel belongs I have no data to inform me, as Sir William Dugdale has omitted to do it.

At the head of it is a heavy monument, of the reign of James I.,

commemorating Sir Edward Devereux, of Castle Bromwich, in this parish, knight and baronet, 1622; another to Lord Viscount Hereford, who, declining to pay for the engraving, it is omitted in the "History of Warwickshire."

In the north aisle is an altar tomb, with the figures of William Holt, Esq. (and wife), lord of this town, who died 1523, with angels holding their arms at the sides. Below it a brass for his son, Thomas Holt, Esq., justice of North Wales, and also lord of the town, who died 1545, with figures of him and his wife Margaret, daughter of William Willington, of Bankeston, Esq., a son and two daughters; and a mural monument, with figures kneeling, of his son, Edward Holt, who died 1592, and his wife, Dorothy Ferrars, and others for the preceding branches of the family. The church has been repaired and new-pewed by some of the family. The west tower is surmounted by a beautiful spire. Near the church are a good house or two, an inn, the vicarage-house (present incumbent, Dr. Spencer), and an almshouse appointed and endowed by Sir Thomas Holt, first knight and baronet of the family, and built by his grandson and heir, Sir Robert, 1655, for five men and five women, on a rent-charge of £88 per annum out of his manor of Erdington. This Sir Thomas began the mansion-house at Aston, 1618, 16 James I., and finished 11 Charles I., and enclosed the park. He died 1656, having suffered greatly for his loyalty in the Civil War. Being too old to follow the King, he entertained him here two nights about six days before the battle of Edgehill, and during that time several cannon-balls were fired at the house, one of which is still preserved, and the marks of it on the staircase and balustrades still shown. The house is in form of a half H, fronting the east, with a handsome hall, in which hangs the founder's portrait at full-length and that of his lady, who occurs frequently through the house. The gallery at the back is of large proportion and great length, furnished with family portraits, which also decorate the dining-parlour, at the head of which is the large picture of King Charles I. sitting with his children.

Among other curiosities here are the hangings of the bedchamber, all worked by "Sarah Holt, spinster, 1744, aged lx. years," with views of this house and of Brereton, co. Chester, which came to the family by the marriage of Sir Robert Holt, grandson of Sir Thomas, with a daughter of Sir William Brereton, knight. The last occupier of this mansion, with a jointure of near £2,000 per annum, was Sarah Lady Holt, relict of the late Sir Lister, and married to him, 1754, being the daughter of Samuel Newton, Esq., of Knights Bromley, in the county of Stafford. On her death, April 9, 1794, it became and is now the property of the Hon. Heneage Legge, fourth son of the present Earl of Dartmouth.

Atherstone.

[1814, *Part I.*, p. 113.]

If any correspondent would send you a good drawing of the house called the "Three Tuns," in Atherstone, where Henry VII. slept previous to the Battle of Bosworth Field, as is mentioned by Mr. Hutton, and Mr. Nichols in his additions to that very entertaining history, it would please many to see it inserted in your Magazine.

N. S.

Baginton.

[1849, *Part I.*, pp. 25-29.]

Baginton, in the county of Warwick, three miles from Coventry, was purchased in 5 Richard II. (1381-82) from Sir Richard Herthul* by Sir William Bagot, a younger son, it is believed, of the Bagots of Blithfield in Staffordshire, and who was one of the favourite ministers of Richard II. In the following year he was sheriff of the counties of Warwick and Stafford. It was at this place that the Duke of Hereford lodged before his intended wager of battle with the Duke of Norfolk, upon Gosford Green, adjoining Coventry, on September 16, 1397. From hence (according to Holinshed) "about the houre of prime came to the barriers of the listes the Duke of Hereford, mounted on a white courser, barded with green and blew velvet, imbrodered sumptuouslie with swans and antelops of goldsmiths' woorke, armed at all points." The Duke of Norfolk (Thomas Mowbray) arrived at the same place, from his castle at Caludon, in the neighbourhood, "his horsse being barded with crimosen velvet, imbrodered richlie with lions of silver and mulberie trees."

There is nothing now remaining of Baginton Castle but a small portion of wall, scarcely sufficient to mark the place where it stood. Of the castle at Caludon, one fragment of a massy wall, in the inner part of which are two pointed windows now closed up, and a portion of the moat, are the only remains.

When the Duke of Hereford superseded King Richard as Henry IV., Sir William Bagot was, with other ministers of the late reign, committed to the Tower; but he was soon after released and restored to his estate. He died on September 6, 1407.

In the year 1816 I frequently visited the Warwickshire churches for the purpose of copying the monumental inscriptions and taking rubbings of the ancient brasses. At this period I went to Baginton Church, remarkable for its "ivy-mantled tower," where I found deposited on the Bromley vault, covered with dust, the broken plates of Sir William Bagot and his wife Margaret, about four feet in length. The inscription given by Dugdale was gone. I suggested to the clerk, and afterwards to the late rector, that such valuable memorials

* Chetwynd MS., quoted by Lord Bagot.

of the ancient lords of the manor should be better preserved, and that they should be cleaned, restored, and affixed to one of the walls. A reduced copy of the rubbing was finally engraved, and published in 1824 in the "Memorials of the Bagot Family," by Lord Bagot, who has had the plates perfectly restored and affixed in a public situation in the church.* Both the knight and his lady wore the collar of SS., testifying their loyalty to the new dynasty.

Baginton Castle was in existence in 1483; for it appears from the Coventry Annals that the bakers of the city, objecting to the ordinances of the mayor relative to the price of bread, refused to supply the city with that article, and went in a body for refuge to Baginton Castle; but, on their return, they were heavily fined.

Sir William Dugdale states that Sir Henry Rainsford, of Clifford, Gloucestershire, sold Baginton in 1618 to William Bromley, Esq. He was descended from Sir Walter Bromley, Knt., of Bromley, Staffordshire, in the time of King John, and heir male to Sir John Bromley, who in 1416 recovered the standard of Guyenne in the Battle of Corby, for which he was knighted and had the standard for his crest. This William Bromley probably built the mansion which was afterwards burnt in 1706 (of which there is a large painting in the present house), and married Katharine Millard, who, on his death, became guardian to her son in his minority in 1628. Sir William had two sons, William and Clobery, and two daughters, Ellen Campion and Margaret Clerke.

His son, Sir William Bromley, K.B., married Ursula, daughter of Thomas Lord Leigh, of Stoneley. He is eulogised by Sir W. Dugdale as "a person whose speciall endowments do show that he hath not degenerated from his worthy ancestors,"† and he dedicated to him his map of Knightlow hundred, at the corner of which is engraved his armorial bearings. He was in arms for King Charles I., and suffering much by imprisonments and sequestrations for his loyalty, was made one of the Knights of the Order of the Bath at the coronation of Charles II. He died January, 1683.

William, his son, was a gentleman commoner of Christ Church, Oxford; admitted B.A. in 1681, and created D.C.L. August 27, 1702; and is described by Bishop Burnet as a Tory, of grave deportment and good morals. . . .

Mr. Bromley was elected one of the representatives in Parliament for the county of Warwick twice—viz., 1690 and 1695—and subsequently ten times elected in succession one of the burgesses for the University of Oxford. He was several times appointed by Parliament one of the Commissioners for taking, examining, and stating

* They have subsequently been engraved in Mr. Boutell's "Monumental Brasses and Slabs." The restoration was beautifully executed by the Messrs. Waller.—E.D.

† Two letters of Sir William Bromley to Sir William Dugdale are printed in Hamper's "Life, Diary, and Correspondence" of that eminent man, pp. 241, 285.

the public accounts of the kingdom. In 1710 he was Speaker of the House of Commons, and sworn one of the Privy Council; and after the dissolution of that Parliament he was one of the principal Secretaries of State. In proof of the high esteem in which he was held by the House of Commons for his talents and integrity, the following memorable circumstance is related. In 1706 (St. Thomas's Day), when the family mansion of Baginton had been destroyed by fire, the calamitous intelligence was brought to him while attending his duty in that House, and a considerable sum was immediately voted by Parliament to defray the expense of rebuilding the structure. On the front of this new mansion is an appropriate inscription from the *Æneid*, "*Dii patrii, servate Domum.*" He confirmed a copy of his father's deed of benefactions to the parish of Baginton, the original of which, with other family MSS., had been destroyed in this fire. He died on February 13, 1731-32, and his death is recorded in the *Daily Courant* of Monday, February 14. . . .

There is a full-length portrait of the Secretary in the mansion at Baginton, and another in the Picture Gallery at Oxford; an engraving has also been published, "*M. Dahl pinx 1712. J. Smith fec. et excudit.*"

Mr. Secretary Bromley married Elizabeth, second daughter of Ralph Lord Stawell, and had issue two sons and two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne. Thomas, the elder, was created M.A. by the University of Oxford July 21, 1716. He dying unmarried, William, the younger, became heir to his father. He was of Oriel College, Oxford, created D.C.L. May 19, 1732. At the time of his father's death he was M.P. for the borough of Warwick, having been returned at the general election of 1727. He was afterwards elected for the University of Oxford, on the death of George Clark, LL.D., in February, 1737, but died himself on the 12th of the following month. He married in 1725 Lucy Throckmorton, an heiress, whose father died before she was born, and her mother in childbirth of her.* She was the last of the family of Haseley, Warwickshire, and on his death she married Richard Chester, Esq. She died 1773.

His son and successor was William Throckmorton Bromley, Esq., who was elected M.P. for the county of Warwick in 1765 and 1768, but died in 1769, aged 42, having married Bridget, eldest daughter of Richard Davenport, of Calveley, co. Chester, Esq.

Their son, William Davenport Bromley, Esq., died in 1810 unmarried, and was the last heir male of the family. His sister and heiress, Lucy, was married to Captain Cromwell Price, an Irishman; but she died, also without children, in 1822. She left Baginton to her cousin, the Rev. Walter Davenport, youngest son of Davis Davenport, Esq., of Capesthorn House, co. Chester, and he assumed the name of Bromley. He has been twice married, first (in 1818)

* *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1737, p. 189.

to Miss Gooch, daughter of the Archdeacon of Sudbury and granddaughter of a former Bishop of Ely (her brother, the Rev. Frederick Gooch, is the present Rector of Baginton); and secondly (in 1829) to Lady Louisa Mary Dawson, aunt to the Earl of Portarlington. The Rev. Walter Davenport Bromley is the present Lord of Baginton; but, residing at Wootton Hall, near Ashbourne, he lets it to William Yates Peel, Esq., brother to the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel.

In Dr. Thomas's edition of Dugdale's "Warwickshire" is printed the epitaph at Baginton of Mrs. Ellen Campion, daughter of William Bromley, Esq., who died in 1632; but the following epitaphs to the family have not as yet been published:

"P.M.S.

"In the repository adjoining lie the bodys of Sir WILLIAM BROMLEY, Knight of the Hon^{ble} Order of the Bath, and of URSULA, daughter of the Lord Leigh, his beloved wife—a lady worthy of such a husband. . . . He gave a Farm and the Tithes to this Church for ever, and perpetual Charities to the Poor.

"William Bromley erected this monument, as an instance of filial duty and affection, when he beautified this chancel, A.D. 1723."

"P.M.S.

"In the vault belonging to the family lies the body of the Right Hon^{ble} WILLIAM BROMLEY, Esq. . . . He could not long remain in privacy, being soon forced into it by the University of Oxford, who elected him one of their Representatives in the year 1700, and he served that learned body with fidelity and honour in ten successive Parliaments. Refusing imployment offer'd him in the State, he was twice appointed by Act of Parliament one of the Commissioners for stating the Public Accounts of the Kingdom, which trust he discharged with great wisdom and integrity. In the reign of Queen Anne he was with great unanimity chosen Speaker of the Hon^{ble} House of Commons, and fill'd the chair with singular credit and authority. Upon the dissolution of that Parliament he was appointed by Her Majesty one of the principal Secretaries of State, in which office he continued during that good Queen's life. Her successor was pleased to offer him another employment, which he did not think proper to accept. He merited the greatest honours, never sought, but often declined them; in all times and changes prefer'd integrity to the highest titles, and allow'd no views to interfere with the love of his country, in whose service he died February 13, 1731, aged 69, much lamented by those who had the honour of his acquaintance, and in the highest esteem and veneration of all good men."

"In the family vault, near this place, lies Mrs. ELIZABETH BROMLEY, eldest daughter of the Right Hon^{ble} William Bromley, Esq., Speaker of the House of Commons, and Secretary of State to the late Queen Anne, by his last lady, Elizabeth, daughter of the Right Hon^{ble} Ralph Lord Stawell. She died Jan^y 26, 1742." . . .

"In memory of WILLIAM, son of the Right Hon^{able} WILLIAM BROMLEY, Esq., who died March the 12th, 1736, aged 38. Also of his son, WILLIAM THROCKMORTON BROMLEY, Esq., elected Knight of the Shire for this county in January, 1765, and re-elected in the spring of 1768, who died March the 4th, 1769, aged 42. And BRIDGET, his relict, the eldest daughter of Richard Davenport, of Calveley, in the county of Chester, Esq., who died February, 1778, aged 45. Of their daughters, BRIDGET, who died Apr^l, 1787, aged 28; and MARY, who died June, 1787, aged 25. And of their son, WILLIAM DAVENPORT BROMLEY, Esq., who died June 29, 1810, aged 47.

"This monument was erected, A.D. 1813, as a mark of sincere and affectionate respect, by Lucy, the relict of Cromwell Price, Esq., and second and only surviving daughter of William Throckmorton Bromley and Bridget his wife."

These lines are on the vault :

"REPOSITORIVM BROMLEIGHORVM, AN: DO: 1677."

The following inscription is on a plain tomb in the churchyard :

"LUCY PRICE, relict of Cromwell Price, Esq., died Aug. 19th, 1822, aged 64."

W. READER.

Berkswell.

[1827, *Part I.*, pp. 572, 573.]

The drawing of Berkswell Church (see Plate) is from a sketch taken in 1824, and includes a representation of the base and remaining part of the shaft of a stone cross in the south-eastern quarter of the churchyard.

This church is an ancient structure, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, with a low tower of great strength. In the chancel, which exhibits the Saxon style of architecture, are several handsome monuments of the Wilmot family. Among them is one to the memory of the late Right Hon. Sir John Eardley Wilmot, Knt., Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, who, after many years' retirement from the Bench, died on February 5, 1792, in the eighty-third year of his age, and was buried there. . . .

The parish of Berkswell lies about six miles west by north of the city of Coventry, at a short distance south of Meriden on the London road. It contains a handsome mansion, north of the church, called Berkswell Hall, rebuilt about ten years since by the present possessor, Sir John Eardley Wilmot, Bart., who resides there. The parsonage-house, adjoining to the churchyard on the south, is occupied by the Rev. Thomas Cattell, the present incumbent.

The best published account of this church and parish may be found in Dr. Thomas's edition of Dugdale's "*Antiquities of Warwickshire.*" . . .

The inscriptions on the Wilmot monuments are copied below. The first two have been before printed, but I conceive they are not on that account the less in place here.

GEORGE YATES.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN THE CHANCEL OF BERKSWELL CHURCH.

On the north side :

"In a vault under the Church lie the bodies of Sir John Eardley Wilmot, knt., and Dame Sarah, his wife, daughter of Thomas Revett, of Derby, esq. He was the second son of Robert Wilmot, of Osmaston, in the county of Derby, esq., by Ursula, his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir Samuel Marow, of this parish, bart., and Dame Mary, his wife, only daughter and heir of Sir Arthur Cayley, of Newland, in the county of the city of Coventry, knt. He was educated at Litchfield and Westminster schools, and at Trinity Hall in the University of Cambridge; from thence he removed to the Inner Temple, and being called to the bar, practised as a barrister about 23 years. Upon the 11th day of Feb., 1755,

he was appointed one of his Majesty's Justices of the Court of King's Bench ; upon the 19th day of November, 1756, one of the Commissioners for the Custody of the Great Seal ; and upon the 20th day of August, 1766, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, which office he resigned upon the 24th day of January, 1771. He had issue three sons, Robert, who died a bachelor in the East Indies, John, who married Fanny, only daughter and heir of Samuel Sainthill, esq., and Eardley, and two daughters, Mary Marow, married to the Right Hon. Lord Eardley, of Belvidere in the county of Kent, and Elizabeth, married to Thomas Blomefield, esq., Major in the Royal Artillery. Dame Sarah departed this life on the 27th of July, 1772, in the 51st year of her age, and Sir John Eardley Wilmot, on the 5th of Feb., 1792, in the 83d year of his age."

On a beautiful monument, by Bacon, against the south wall :

"Sacred to the memory of Mary Marow, wife of the Right Hon. Lord Eardley, and eldest daughter of Sir John Eardley Wilmot, Esq., knt., Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. Her conduct in all the various relations of life was so eminently distinguished that Providence seemed to have raised her up as an example to the age in which she lived, that rank and fortune may be enjoyed with the purest innocence of life, and the unremitting exercise of every Christian virtue. She died universally lamented 1st March, 1794, aged 48, and lies here interred. This memorial of affection and of sorrow is erected by her surviving husband."

Against the south wall :

"To the memory of the Hon. William Eardley, second son of the Right Hon. Lord Eardley, who died in London on the 17th of Sept., 1805, aged thirty, and is buried in a vault adjoining. This tablet is erected by a most affectionate father in testimony of his profound grief at the loss of a son whose gentle manners, amiable temper, and unsullied integrity had most deservedly endeared him to his family and to his friends."

On a monument, by Richard Westmacott, against the south wall :

"Sacred to the memory of John Eardley Wilmot, esq. (second son of the Right Hon. Sir John Eardley Wilmot, knt.), Master in Chancery, Member of Parliament, Commissioner for granting relief to the American Loyalists and to the French Refugees. He died June 23, 1815, aged 66 years.

"He was a father to the poor, and the cause which he knew not he searched out :

"The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon him, and he caused the widow's heart to sing with joy."—JOB ch. 29."

On a beautiful monument against the north wall :

"Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth Emma, wife of John Eardley Eardley-Wilmot, esq., of Berkswell Hall, in this parish, and daughter of C. H. Parry, M.D., of the city of Bath. On the 12th of March, 1818, she gave birth to a son and a daughter, and on the 22d of the same month, aged 29, leaving her husband and eight children to deplore her untimely loss, her blessed spirit was summoned to the tribunal of her Almighty Father, in the well-grounded hope of being received, through the merits of her Redeemer, into the mansions of eternal life and of endless happiness and glory."

Birmingham.

[1764, p. 431.]

Upon the south side of New Street stands the Free School ; it is a spacious brick building ornamented on the top with a stone rail and balusters ; it consists of two wings, and a tower in the middle, with a clock and bell. The schools are in one wing, the other is the

head-master's house. There are two masters, two ushers, and a writing-master. The school was founded by King Edward VI. in the first year of his reign, A.D. 1551, and endowed with the lands belonging to a dissolved priory. Though the revenue amounts to near £600 per annum, the school is by no means in a flourishing condition.

At the north-east corner of the new churchyard stands the Charity School; it is a plain brick building, where seventy boys and thirty girls are very well taught and provided with all necessities, and is supported chiefly by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants of the town.

In the High Street stand two market crosses at a considerable distance from each other; the one is called the Old Cross, the other the Welch Cross; they are small brick buildings supported by pillars, with a cupola, clock, and bell upon each of them.

In this town are also meeting-houses for Dissenters of all denominations, but none that deserve a particular description.

In Litchfield Street stands the workhouse belonging to the town; it is a very large brick building, ornamented with a turret, clock, and bell. In it the poor are very decently and well provided for.

Adjoining to this town (from which it is only separated by the Rea, a small brook, over which is a handsome stone bridge) is the hamlet of Deritend, in the parish of Ashton. It has a very handsome neat brick chapel, with a tower at the west end very lately finished. The minister is appointed by the trustees of the chapel. The present minister is the Rev. Mr. Cox. The chapel is dedicated to St. John.

[1804, *Part I.*, p. 299.]

Dugdale* derives the appellation Birmingham from some Saxon possessor; and his opinion, I presume, is founded on the Norman survey, where it is called Bermingeham,† which he might interpret the ham, or residence of Berminge.

Mr. Hutton‡ very ingeniously derives it from "brom," the shrub broom, and "wych," a declivity, and supposes its termination "ham" was afterwards added to distinguish it from the neighbouring hamlets of West and Castle Bromwich.

These derivations, however plausible, seem to have but little weight when we consider that the Roman station Bremenium§ was on the Ikeneild Street at this place.

That word evidently bears a greater resemblance to the present Birmingham than to Mr. Hutton's hypothetical Bromwich; and the historian of Manchester, in a note on the tenth Iter of Richard of Cirencester,|| says: "The name of Bremenium is composed of Bre

* "History of Warwickshire."

† Domesday Book, vol. i., 243 b.

‡ "History of Birmingham," 3rd edit., p. 2.

§ Richard of Cirencester, Iter X.

|| "History of Manchester," Appendix.

and maen, the high stone, and the sight of it must therefore have been on the crest of the hill at Birmingham." In the "*Liber Niger of the Exchequer*"* it is written Bremingeham; and in a list of no less than fifty changes which the fluctuation of orthography has caused in the name of our town I find nothing to support Mr. Hutton's conjecture previous to the year 1336, when Burmyncham occurs. I must, therefore, prefer Mr. Whitaker's derivation until Mr. Hutton, or some other antiquarian friends, will oblige me by producing a proof that Bromwych, or Bromwycham, was the original name, and by accounting for the manner in which it is spelt in "*Richard of Cirencester*," *Domesday Book*, and the "*Liber Niger*."

WILLIAM HAMPER.

[1804, *Part I.*, p. 227.]

The following monumental inscriptions are in St. Martin's Church in this town, and, as neither Dr. Thomas, the continuator of Dugdale, nor Mr. Hutton, the historian of Birmingham, have noticed them, I hope the *Gentleman's Magazine* will supply the deficiency, and allow them a place in its asylum for antiquities.

WILLIAM HAMPER.

1. On a brass plate on a slab in the chancel :

"H. S. E. Corpus Jacobi Parkinson, A.M., Qui per annos 2. Scholæ lib. Edv. VI. Reg hic institutæ præsuit. Huic muneri . . . Græcam linguam apprime calluit, Latinæ vetustatem haud mediocri acumine perspectam habuit. Hebraicæ nequicquam rudis. Natus est apud Witney in com. Oxon. Martii die 3. A.D. 1652. Hujusce vitæ malis valedixit 28 die ejusdem mensis 1772, Pace fruiturus æterna. H. M. Filius ejus unicus Jacobus, Oxon. Alumn. (sui optim. parentem amoris testandi gratia) ponendum curavit."

Below is another brass plate with arms, a chevron, colours not expressed.

2. On a brass plate against the end of a pew, north side of the nave, near the pulpit :

"Infra jacet sepulta exemplarisq. sincera X^{da} ministra M^s An'a Groue, filia Tho. Boughton de Bilton, esq., cara marito, com'oda vicinis, candida cunctis: ætate vigenti ejus (viz., an'o 38, Junij 9, A.D. 1681) piam efflavit animam, deoq. cohabitat in æternum. Useful in life, joyful at death."

Arms, three crescents, a fourth for difference; colours not expressed.

[1810, *Part II.*, pp. 414, 415.]

In the large area which has been partly made by the improvements around St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, is placed a bronze statue of Nelson by Westmacott, erected by subscription, and opened to public view on October 25, 1809. The annexed illustration of the statue may be acceptable. The hero is represented in a reposed attitude, his arm reclined upon an anchor. He appears

* "*Lib. Niger Scaccarii*," vol. i., 139.

invested with the insignia of those honours by which his sovereign and distant princes distinguished him. Victory embellishes the prow. To the left is disposed a sail, which, passing behind the statue, gives breadth to that view of the composition. Above the ship is the facsimile of the Flagstaff Truck of the *L'Orient*, fished up by Sir Samuel Hood the day after the Battle of the Nile. This group is surmounted upon a pedestal of statuary marble.

On the front of the pedestal is the following inscription :

"This statue, in honour of Admiral Lord Nelson, was erected by the inhabitants of Birmingham, A.D. MDCCCIX."

The whole is enclosed by iron palisades, in the form of boarding-pikes connected by a twisted cable. At each of the four corners is placed a cannon, from which issues a lamp-post, in the form of a cluster of pikes supporting a ship's lantern. . . .

Another great improvement must not be omitted, the public office in Moor Street, a handsome stone building, at the back of which is the prison ; they appear to be well adapted to their respective uses, and the front of the former has a respectable appearance.

The subjoined inscriptions to the memory of two eminent characters of Birmingham may be acceptable.

On a handsome monument in St. Philip's Church :

"Sacred to the memory of Moses Haughton, an eminent Artist, for more than 40 years resident in this town. He excelled in every branch of his profession, more particularly in his Paintings of Still Life. Plain in his manners, and frank in his disposition, he neither sought popularity nor courted patronage, but passed his days in obscurity, contented with the merit of distinguished excellence, though not enriched by its rewards. A stranger to the Classic Muse, the Pupil of Labour, without the aids or the privileges of the Student, he proved himself, by the powers of his extraordinary Genius, abundantly qualified to have added lustre to a more elevated station ; no less esteemed as a man than admired as an Artist. He closed his life on the 24th day of December, 1804, aged 70, and was interred at Wednesbury, the place of his nativity."

On a neat marble tablet on the north side of St. Martin's, the whole in capitals :

"To the memory of the Rev. George Croft, D.D., this Tablet is erected by the Congregation of St. Martin's in testimony of their gratitude for his valuable services as their Lecturer during a period of 18 years ; of their respect for his learning as a Scholar, and his zeal as a Supporter of the Establishment in Church and State ; of their esteem for his integrity as a Man, his hospitality as a Neighbour, his active and unwearied benevolence as a Counsellor of the Poor, and his virtues in private life as a Husband and a Father. He was a native of Yorkshire, Rector of Thwing, and Vicar of Arncliffe, in that county ; was sometime Fellow of University-college, in Oxford, and formerly Head Master of Brewood-school, in Staffordshire. He died an inhabitant of Birmingham, the xith of May, MDCCCIX., aged 62, and was interred in this aisle."

D. PARKES.

[1805, *Part II.*, p. 915.]

In Plate III., Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, are the medals struck in commemoration of laying the first stone of the Free Church at Birmingham, July 22. Nos. 1 and 2 were generally circulated, and many of them worn with blue ribbons at the breast of the spectators. The others, 3 and 4, were intended to be struck in gold and silver, and presented to their Majesties, their family and suite, had they honoured the ceremony with their presence. In swinging the stone into its place, it overpoised for a short time, but was soon righted. The site was shown for money to crowds of spectators for several days afterward, being a large trench with a sloping bank, which, at the time of the ceremony, was fitted up with boarded seats like an amphitheatre.

P. Q.

[1814, *Part II.*, pp. 100, 101.]

An elegant monument by Westmacott has lately been erected in St. Philip's Church, Birmingham, with the following inscription :

"In the aile at the foot of this pilaster are interred the remains of Beatrix, wife of Edward Outram, D.D., Rector of this church, eldest daughter of the late Rich. Postlethwaite, Esq., of Lancashire, a niece of Thomas Postlethwaite, D.D., late Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. She was born Feb. xxvi., MDCCLXXV., and after a lingering and painful illness died Aug. vi., MDCCXC."

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

At the west end of St. Paul's Chapel, Birmingham, is a neat tablet inscribed to the memory of Mr. Joseph Barber, artist :

"To the memory of Joseph Barber, Artist of this Town, who died 16th July, 1811, in the 53rd year of his age."

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

D. PARKES.

[1824, *Part II.*, p. 392.]

I send you the inscription on a monumental tribute of respect to Dr. Outram lately erected in St. Philip's Church, Birmingham. It is placed on the north side, the south-east pillar, near the inscription to his beloved Beatrix.

D. PARKES.

"Prope hoc marmor, eodem quo Conjux ejus carissima sepulcro, conditus est Edmundus Outram, S.T.P. Archidiaconus Derbiensis, Dioceseos Lichfield et Coventr. Cancellarius, hujusce Ecclesie Rector, et Hospitalis quod vocant Divi Joannis Lichfieldie siti Magister."

[The rest is omitted.]

Bishopton.

[1810, *Part I.*, pp. 314, 315.]

Within the parish of Old Stratford, Warwickshire, is the hamlet of Bishopton (originally spelt Bishopsdone), anciently belonging to the Bishops of Worcester, and situated, as Dugdale says, "at the foot of

an indifferent hill, as the syllable 'done,' or 'dune,' imports" ("Antiquities of Warwickshire," first edition, p. 525). It was granted by Sampson, Bishop of Worcester, temp. Henry I., to Frethericus, or Fraric, de Bissopesdone, as is sufficiently evident from the certificate of the succeeding Bishop, recorded in the Red Book of Worcester, 12 Henry II.: "Isti sunt feoffati de dominico à tempore Sansonis Episcopi; Frederec de Bissopsdon, 1 mil.," etc.; and continued for some centuries in the Bishopston family, who were of considerable eminence in this county. I send you the north-east view of Bishopston Chapel of Ease (see Fig. 2), which is a very ancient structure, as appears by its ordination, made in the reign of King John, in the presence of Maugerius, Bishop of Worcester, by Sir William de Bishopsdon, Knight, the parson of the mother church of Stratford-upon-Avon being allowed to appoint the priest serving in the chapel, who, in 37 Henry VIII. had the small tithes of the village for his salary, which appears by the Commissioners' certificate then made of the value of all religious establishments in Warwickshire and Leicestershire, now in my possession, being apparently the same to which Dugdale, in his "Antiquities of Warwickshire," frequently refers. . . . The north and south entrances are under two low Saxon doorways, unornamented. The nave is divided from the chancel by a pointed arch, over which is a kind of perforated turret supporting an insignificant bell and surmounted by a cross. An octagonal stone font, probably of very early date, remains in the chapel (Fig. 3). In the south wall of the chancel is a piscina (Fig. 4), and near it is a small gothic window, but as all interments of the dead, mortuaries, and oblations were made to the mother church, there are no armorial bearings, tombs, or monumental inscriptions, nor, indeed, anything further, excepting the antiquity of the buildings, demanding the observation of an antiquary.

R. B. W.

Broome.

[1798, *Part I.*, p. 467.]

The annexed view of the old church at Broome (Plate I.), and the bell in the tree (which I well remember), are copied from a sketch in my possession, taken by Mr. Shenstone in 1739, which I shall be glad to see engraved to accompany the poem.

W. S.

Caldecote.

[1783, *Part I.*, p. 225.]

In Dugdale's "Warwickshire" is engraven a monument from Caldecote Church to the memory of George Abbott, Esq., who is therein celebrated for the "memorable and unparalleled defence of Caldecote Hall, with eight men (besides his mother and her maids), August 15, 1642, against the furious assault of Princes Rupert and

Maurice with 13 troops of horse and dragoons," and for his "Paraphrases of the Books of Job and Psalms." The personal history of Mr. Abbott is short. He married the daughter of Colonel Purefoy, whose house he is said to have so gallantly defended. He was a member of the House of Commons in two Parliaments, and died February 2, 1648, in his forty-fourth year. Wood mentions him as the author of (1) "The whole Book of Job Paraphrased," 1640, 4to.; (2) "Vindiciæ Sabbathi," etc., 1641; (3) "Brief Notes upon the whole Book of Psalms." These slight memorials of him I find in the "History of Hinckley"; and these, I believe, are all that are anywhere recorded. His writings are, perhaps, consigned to dull oblivion. But my curiosity is excited to learn some further particulars of the attack upon Caldecote Hall, which must have been sufficiently severe, since tradition says "the dishes and plates were melted into bullets."

LEICESTRIENSIS.

Coughton.

[1784, *Part I.*, p. 404.]

In Coughton Park, near Alcester, Warwickshire, upon a hill called Dane's Bank, are deep trenches and remains of an old camp.

Near Oversley Green, about two miles from Dane's Bank, is another hill with a fosse, called Morgan's Hill.

In Alcester field, which lies directly between the two hills, are frequently found skeletons of men and horses, old armour, javelin points, etc.

I am induced to give you this information, hoping that some of your antiquarian correspondents will take a tour to these places, and introduce their antiquities to public notice.

PH.

P.S.—I forgot to mention that the Roman road, Ikeneild Street, runs within half a mile of Dane's Bank and close under Morgan's Hill.

[1794, *Part I.*, pp. 117, 118.]

I enclose a rough, but not unfaithful, sketch of a very venerable, turreted gateway belonging to the house of Sir John Throckmorton, at Coughton, in Warwickshire (Plate II., Fig. 2).

The edifice is, with some probability, reported to have once made a part of Wesham Abbey, and to have been removed thence by Sir George Throckmorton at the Dissolution. The drawing I send will make a particular description unnecessary; but to such as wish for farther information concerning this curious old edifice, the "History of Evesham Abbey and Borough," now publishing, will be no unwelcome instructor. With respect to its removal from Evesham, there are many plausible arguments to be adduced on both sides of the question. The authority for it is pretty good.

I have frequently myself heard a gentleman of great veracity in Evesham report that he had this information from the mouth of Sir Robert T., the late possessor. The style of its architecture is certainly ancient enough, though it is by no means so easy to determine on the exact date of this species of building as on that of churches, etc. Among the records of Evesham Abbey I find a memorandum that tends somewhat to confirm the assertion. A license is there said to have been obtained from King Edward (I., I presume, as there is nothing farther specified), for enlarging and building battlements and turrets on a very handsome gate of the abbey. There is a motto over the entrance, but it does not at all, I think, tend to decide the question. It is from Psalm cxxvii.: "Nisi Dominus edificaverit domum," etc., in modern characters, and as applicable to a private dwelling as to an ecclesiastic structure. The Throckmorton arms, inserted on two parts of the front, are of differently coloured stone, yet apparently fixed on of late years. Dugdale, in his "Warwickshire," mentions this gateway, but says not a word of its removal from Evesham. He only observes "that it was built by Sir George Throckmorton, who intended that the rest of the house should be finished in the same style." But the rest of the edifice, as may be seen by the two side-buildings, which the drawing includes, are a very awkward imitation, if any, of the venerable style of the tower. The additions under the arch are, confessedly, of very modern date. Sir George lived at the time of the Dissolution; but surely Dugdale would have noticed the remarkable circumstance of the removal had it been indisputably true. In the chancel of Coughton Church (which, for its painted glass, certainly from the above abbey, I should recommend to the particular notice of every antiquary) is a plate of brass, inscribed to the memory of Dame Elizabeth Throckmorton, the last abbess of Denye (Query, where?), and aunt to Sir George Throckmorton, who died 1547.

I have thrown the above circumstances, *pro* and *con*, rather promiscuously together, that some one of your deeper antiquarian readers may decide from them, and from the general appearance of the structure, whether or not there appears to be any truth in the report of its removal. It is a slight, and probably accidental, addition to this probability that it is built of exactly the same kind of stone with the remaining fragments of Evesham Abbey. W. T.

[1794, *Part I.*, p. 224.]

What possible reason beyond tradition can be assigned for supposing the gate of Coughton House was brought from Evesham Abbey, I am at a loss to conceive. The drawing furnishes none. The principal and most handsome gate of that abbey still remains there. Dugdale says: "Sir George Throckmorton built that stately castle-

like gatehouse of freestone at Coughton, intending, as it should seem, to have made the rest of his house suitable thereto " before the 1 Mary, in which he died. The paintings in the chancel windows at Coughton, which B. T. says "were certainly from the above abbey," Dugdale tells us, were ordered by his will to be put up by his executors, the east window to be glazed with the story of the dome (*i.e.*, the general judgment), the east window of the north aisle with a representation of the seven Sacraments, and that of the south aisle with the seven works of mercy. Whether these are the subjects "recommended to the particular notice of every antiquary" by B. T. he can best tell us, for, as to myself, I have never seen them. If they turn out to be the above subjects, it is not likely they were procured from Evesham or any other religious house, but painted on purpose. The arms "lately standing in the windows of the church, being only such as had been set up at the new glazing of them in Sir G. T.'s time, Dugdale purposely omitted, in regard they were no other than such as be in the window of the manor house, whereof he had taken notice." ("Warwickshire," ed. Thomas, 755, 756.)

Coventry.

[1784, *Part II.*, p. 814.]

The ring of jet of which you now receive a drawing (see Plate I., Fig. 4) was dug up a few years ago in the garden of Caludon House, near Coventry (formerly belonging to the Segraves, afterwards to the Mowbrays, and now to Lord Clifford). See Dugdale, "Warwickshire," i., 128, edit. Thomas. At the same time were found some ancient black bugles and silver coins of Henry VI., Henry VII., and Queen Elizabeth. There was formerly a large chapel in this place. Part of the wall is yet standing, and is very thick. Several of the arched windows are still visible. It was heretofore fortified with a moat and embattled wall, the traces of which are remaining to this day.

OBSERVATOR.

[1786, *Part I.*, p. 219.]

As it is some time since we have had a miscellaneous plate of antiquities, I send you herewith a small ebony figure (Plate II., Fig. 3), which was found, some years ago, on removing the old seats in one of the churches at Coventry. It appears to me of the same date and style with the cross found in Lichfield Cathedral, and now deposited in Mr. Greene's museum there, to which it may serve as a companion. It is not meant for the V. M., the attributes are not proper, notwithstanding the child. The palm may belong to St. Joseph or some other, but the former is never depicted in that manner.

OBSERVATOR.

[1789, *Part I.*, pp. 419, 420.]

The principal cause of the present dangerous state of St. Michael's Church in Coventry is owing to the ignorance of some person formerly employed to cut through a strong stone arch, which the architect had wisely constructed about the middle of the tower in order to strengthen and brace that part together, as well as for a counterpoise to the weight of the bells above it. If we consider the narrow dimensions of the square with respect to its elevation there was as much judgment as necessity shown in the constructing of this arch. If its removal was done to make way for the drawing up larger bells, they might have been as well raised on the outside by pullies, and introduced through the bell windows without any danger to the building by only taking away the munnions, which are easily replaced. It may be supposed that the bells were not originally fixed so high, which now when at full swing (particularly on clanging) must occasion a stronger vibration, and having lost the middle girder, it is no wonder to see the effects thereof in those large fissures which it has made in the walls. The partial iron cramps within the same walls are at this time not sufficient to restrain the growing evil, since fresh cracks appear at the ends of those cramps. I sincerely wish the preservation of this admirable structure, and it is from that motive purely these hints are offered. The place of my birth was no farther distant from the steeple than its exact height, and the house being situated in the most advantageous point of view, I may naturally say it was the most striking object of my juvenile notice, and it is plain I have not yet lost my partiality. Something ought to be done that may secure it. . . .

The gates of the city have been pulled down some years since on account of their obstructing the passage for carriages. Two very well executed drawings were taken before their demolition, which are in the possession of Mrs. L——, who favoured me with a sight of them; but she esteems them so much as not to trust them out of her sight, otherwise I intended sending you copies of the above, which are those of Spon Street and Grey Friars' gates.

The little spire of Grey Friars in Coventry is well proportioned, and merits attention. The tower is an octagon; on the top, within, there is a curious gallery in the walls.

GOthicus.

[1789, *Part I.*, p. 532.]

Mr. Pennant, in his "Journey from Chester to London," has inserted the views of Sponne Gate, Bablake Gate, and spire at Coventry. St. Michael's Church and the cross are preserved in Thomas's edition of "Dugdale." But as those works are in few hands, copies on a small scale would enrich the Magazine with some of the finest specimens of Gothic architecture. Those worth preserving, and

which I never saw engraved,* are Trinity and St. John's Churches, St. Mary's Hall, built, according to Dugdale, in the beginning of Henry VI.'s reign, for the meetings and festivals of the brethren and sisters of Corpus Christi,† and Trinity Guild, a beautiful Gothic structure. At the east end of the city stand the remains of a house belonging to the Carmelites or White Friars, founded about the year 1344, and in Grey Friars Lane, an hospital called Grey Friars Hospital, a fine old timber building with a curiously-carved front, founded anno 1529. There are only three small gates left of twelve, viz., Bastill Gate, Cooksheet Gate, and Priory Gate, the latter converted into a dwelling house.

COVENTRIENSIS.

[1789, *Part II.*, pp. 990, 991.]

Over the entrance or porch leading into the Court of St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, there is represented on the key-stone of the arch the Deity crowning the Virgin Mary, who is sitting with her hands conjoined in the attitude of prayer. Mr. Pennant describes it as intended for Henry VI., the founder, and his Queen; but was Henry VI. the founder? On a projecting stone, whence the inward arch springs, is sculptured the Annunciation, fast mouldering away; the figures of Mary and the angel are still discernible, as also a flower-pot in the middle. The correspondent stone in the opposite abutment is likewise wrought with unmeaning, grotesque animals. . . .

In the windows of the great hall much of the historical and armorial painted glass remains unnoticed by Dugdale, who only caused some select figures to be engraved. At the upper end, where the assizes have been sometimes held, there is a very ancient and curious piece of tapestry, with a numerous variety of figures, most of them easy to be explained when necessary. A copy from this piece would make a good plate. There is, however, one circumstance attending which struck me on a close inspection. The original principal figure is gone—that is, cut out; and the figure of Justice holding the scales is substituted in its place; round this are angels bearing the instruments of the Passion. It is therefore clear that the original was some representation of our Saviour Christ, perhaps the crucifixion, for all the figures seem kneeling or turned towards it. In the middle underneath the above is the Virgin Mary, crowned, with the crescent at her feet, but it would be tedious to describe the whole. The room has a noble appearance, and, though not very large, is well proportioned. At the bottom stands an ancient wooden chair of state, carved in Gothic tracery, which probably was preserved from the priory, where it might have served for the

* Good drawings of any of these which have not been engraved would be acceptable.—ED.

† See in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1786, Part ii., p. 638, a curious grant to this guild from the Prior of Coventry.—ED.

Bishop's throne, or the Prior's seat, who was also a baron in Parliament, and I have good ground to say the priory church was used as a cathedral so long as the bishops resided at Coventry. This hall of St. Mary was not the only one for public meetings. I am perfectly assured there were several others, as well as private chapels, where the different guilds or confraternities assembled; such like places being observable in many old habitations at this day, converted at the Dissolution into private dwellings, if lofty rooms, large windows, fragments of painted glass, imagery, and other carved work, be accepted as a certain indication, the frequency whereof in many of the houses of this city and vicinity is a proof that it abounded formerly with capital artists, sculptors both in wood and stone, besides tolerable painters, and ingenious stainers on glass. They had indeed in those days great encouragement, for Coventry was then in its meridian of wealth and trade. The opulence and taste of its ancient citizens shows itself even now in what remains of their former grandeur. How different the present taste and disposition! And who can excuse the want of judgment in placing a long pole on the top of Bablake steeple, disfigured by cobweb-like insignificant iron scroll-work? Pinnacles erected at the four corners, and united by a light Gothic parapet or embattlement, would have had a more pleasing effect, and terminated the perspective view with greater beauty.

OBSERVATOR.

[1789, *Part II.*, p. 1184.]

Observator, speaking of the tapestry in St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, says, "It is clear that the original figure (which has been cut out) was some representation of our Saviour Christ, perhaps the crucifixion," etc.; but is it not full as likely to have been some representation of God the Father, perhaps receiving the Virgin Mary on her ascension? If so, the same figure, which in times of Popery was viewed with little less than adoration, would at a subsequent period be seen with horror, and invite the zeal of our reformers to cut it out and deface it.

NEVEL-PORTH.

[1790, *Part I.*, p. 233.]

Your correspondent Observator is quite accurate. I have seen that very curious piece of ancient tapestry in St. Mary's Hall at Coventry which he has described, and has given satisfactory reasons for what he advanced; consequently there can be no ground for the erroneous suppositions of Nevel-Porth.

RETROSPECTOR.

[1793, *Part II.*, p. 690.]

The admirers of that beautiful fabric, St. Michael's Church, Coventry, justly styled by Sir Christopher Wren "a masterpiece of architecture," will be happy to learn that it is immediately to receive

a thorough repair under the direction of Mr. Potter. . . . A committee has been chosen consisting, among others, of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, Earl of Aylesford, etc., who have appointed Mr. Wyatt to examine it. The bells, having been found in a great measure, if not entirely, the cause of the failure of the tower, are to be lowered 30 feet, and placed upon a framework to be carried up quite distinct from the tower, in which situation, it is the opinion of architects, they will not be injurious. The sum necessary to carry into effect the proposed repairs is about £4,000. . . .

PHILARCHAISMOS.

[1793, *Part II.*, pp. 813-816.]

When I saw the tapestry under the north window in St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, above thirty years ago, it seemed to represent the Last Judgment. In the middle compartment was the Deity seated on a throne, with a sword and scales, attributes rather unusual, and which led your correspondent to call it a figure of Justice. On each side of Him angels with the instruments of the Passion, the Blessed Virgin standing below, surrounded with the Twelve Apostles. In the left compartments above Jesus Christ, with the seven-sealed book, the Lamb on it attended by the Apostles, among whom was distinguishable Paul with his sword, Thomas with his lance, Andrew with his cross, another with a sword and book, and a lion at his feet. Under these is a king kneeling at a desk, with his crown and a book on it; behind him a nobleman standing, a cardinal kneeling, and other assistants standing. On the right hand above are female martyrs, below, a queen kneeling at a desk with a book and female attendants behind her. This seems to represent the establishment and union of the guilds, and probably the king is Edward III., in whose time they were all founded, and the Queen Philippa; or they may be Henry VI., who was a member of the guild, and his queen.

The arms I saw left were those of the kingdom of the East Angles, kings of Man, Earl of Cornwall, City of York, King Alfred, Earl of Chester, Duke of Aquitaine.

A west window has been enlarged and new-glassed with plain glass.

In the lower compartments of the first east window are the portraits of William Beauchamp, fourth son of Thomas Beauchamp, third Earl of Warwick of that name, who died 1411, and his wife Johanna. Under him are the arms of Beauchamp, Lord Bergavenny, and under them this inscription:

"*Wilhelmus Beauchampe. F'ns Bergavenny.*"

Under his wife, who was one of the daughters and co-heirs of Richard Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel, are the arms of Beauchamp, impaling Gules, a lion rampant, quartering chequé or and az. the inscription:

"*Et Johannis uxor eius.*"

She died 1435.

In the two upper compartments of this window are two bishops, of whom Dugdale, who attended only to the portraits of the Earls of Warwick, gives no account. In his list of members of this guild we find Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, and Robert Stretton, Bishop of Lichfield. In the upper part of the second window, a figure in a red cowl and belt, representing Richard Beauchamp, fifth Earl of Warwick of that name, and nephew to William before-mentioned, who died 1439. Under him Beauchamp quartering chequé a chevron ermine, old Earls of Warwick, encircled with a scroll inscription :

"Ricardus . . . Earl of Warwyc."

Now "R. cha . . . mp D'ns . . ." Arms only of Beauchamp. Under his second wife Isabel, daughter and heir of Thomas de Spenser, Duke of Gloucester, a lady in a reticulated head-dress, in the opposite compartment, is the first quartered coat with a scutcheon of pretence a bend quartering a fret and on a scroll round it :

"Isabella. . ."

Beauchamp impaling Gules a lion rampant or quartering chequé or and az.

In one of the lower compartments of this window, the figure of a man with a beard, red cap and belt, and under it something like a bend dexter between wheels gules and or a fess between six roundels, impaling chequé or and az. a chevron, but much broken. The other compartments patched up. In the third window below, under a man with a red cap, a merchant's mark, between "R. S." and round it :

"Roon . . . us elyp . . . sty . . ."

The figure opposite to this is made up of pieces. Above these a bishop with this shield under him, Paly of ten A. and gules on a bend a mitre over it.

"S's (Johannes)."

Opposite to him another bishop holding in his left hand a shut book, under him a shield with the arms of Earl Leofric, Gules an eagle displayed or and over it :

"Ricardus . . . em."

Over each of these bishops' heads are inscriptions in semicircles, not easily to be read ; but all the windows have undergone some alterations by repairs since Dugdale's time, the arms in particular being misplaced and broken. In the three opposite windows remained only one head among patch-work, belonging probably to Dugdale, Earl of Stafford, or Duke of Northumberland, and on the lower compartments of one had been lately painted "John Shaw, Mayor, 1757." In an oriel window near the upper end were painted in each pane various sorts of birds, flying, pluming themselves, or picking insects, herbs, and grain ; in the middle row, in rondeaux, a

man mowing, another ploughing, imperfect, and a third felling a tree ; F. P. the second of these, and all the birds are now gone.

Under the east window, and along either side of the hall, are lines in different panels, with English inscriptions over against them.

[Inscriptions omitted.]

At the bottom of the hall stands an old wooden chair, in which they say King John was crowned ; more probably it was the seat of the senior, or warden of the guild. Here hang a painting of Godiva on horseback, portraits of Norton and Jesson, mayors, Queen Elizabeth, James I., William, Mary, and Anne, and of Sir T. White. Opposite to the entrance into the hall are the butteries, now disused, and a large kitchen underground, still put to its original use, and at each extremity of a large arch, over the coppers, an angel holding this shield.

Over these, at the lower end of the hall, is St. Mary's Parlour, where the business of the corporation is done, and another old chair whose back has been raised. Here is an old painting of Godiva on horseback. In the windows on the right hand were birds, as before, flowers, etc., and in one pane an inscription. Under the great arch to the court are cellars on lease ; over it, Taylour the glazier's work-room ; under it, his warehouse, and Mercer's chapel disused.

Among many other monuments of ancient art that concurred to make Coventry as splendid as any part of the kingdom, in the reign of Henry VI., may be reckoned the Cross. In 1760 remained the lower story of it, with a tolerably well-preserved statue of Henry VI. in the next story above, but now all is cleared away. The Church of St. Michael was in great part rebuilt in the same reign. The tower of this church, having in its west front several dangerous cracks, is now under repair by Mr. Potter, who assisted Mr. Wyatt at Lichfield, and proposes to erect a frame of strong timber-work within to be bound and screwed together with iron bars. R. G.

[1793, *Part II.*, pp. 1104, 1105.]

At St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, three of the west windows were repaired about seven years since, and reglazed with plain glass ; the removal of the stained glass, though much mutilated, is to be regretted. In the two upper compartments of the first east window are, as he says, two bishops, of whom, it is true, Dugdale gives no account ; but the inscriptions beneath are quite perfect, and, indeed, the figures are nearly so ; the faces, mitres, crosiers, and Gothic canopy, are delicate, and worth attention. On the whole, they are the most perfect figures remaining. The inscriptions are :

"Thomas. Arundell. Archieps. Cantuar." (1396.)

and

"Rogerus. Malden. Eps. London." (1404.)

The two lower figures nearly as described by your correspondent ; the inscriptions somewhat more mutilated.

In the upper compartments of the second window I must correct the description of the figure representing Richard Beauchamp. The belt is yellow, and the scroll still reads :

"Ricardus comes ~~Bartho~~,"

but the word "comes" is inverted. The opposite compartment contains the remains of a figure originally representing Isabella, his second wife, fortunately engraved in Dugdale, for the upper half of the body is entirely gone, a bearded face substituted, and the rest filled up with patch-work. The scroll is almost destroyed, the letters "bella" only remaining ; the other letters of her name quite in another part.

Of the two figures below these I shall give you a much fuller account. The first represents a man with a forked beard in a red cap and gown, the usual habiliments of the mayors. On a shield below him is a merchant's mark encircled with a scroll completely inverted, which reads :

"~~Will'mo~~ ~~Whychirch~~ de co."

He was mayor of Coventry in 1400.

Opposite is a figure in a similar habit over a blue dress fastened with a girdle, in which one hand is placed ; the face is good, and the venerable long beard exquisitely done. Below is a shield with "a something like a bend dexter," and a roundlet in the dexter chief, but it has no appearance of having been coloured, consequently may be supposed, like its companion, to be only a merchant's mark. The scroll remains, but the letters have vanished. The dress, however, clearly points out his having been a mayor, and most probably of this city. In the third window, lower compartment, is a figure with a red cap and gown ; under it, a merchant's mark in a shield between the letters R. S., and round it on a scroll :

"Robertus Schppleg,"

who was Mayor of Coventry 1402, and again 1415. The inscription is quite perfect, and excites my surprise how R. G. could so mistake. It seems he surveyed this window in great haste, as will appear from my farther account of it. In the opposite compartment was a figure in a similar dress, but is now very much mutilated, and the shield with the surrounding inscription totally gone. They were evidently the effigies of four mayors of Coventry, probably (as appears from an ancient MS. I have seen) contributors and assistants in the erecting St. Mary's Hall, and certainly members of the guild. In the first upper compartment of this window is a Bishop with a shield under him, as R. G. describes ; but the scroll being again inverted has

caused him to mistake a part of the inscription and omit more. Having particularly examined it, I can assure him it reads thus :

"*Ɔ'n's Ɔohannes Ɔurghill epi . . . zlich.*"

He was Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield anno 1399.

The description of his companion as to his figure is correct, but I must point out an error in the arms; they are, Sable, an eagle displayed or, with a border gules, not as R. G. writes, Gules, an eagle displayed or; neither is that the arms of Leofric, but Sable the field. The inscription on the scroll he also has much mistaken; the true reading is :

"*Ɔicardus . . . cro . . . cath Ɔobe'tr.*"

He was Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, anno 1396, afterwards translated to York. The inscriptions in semicircles are not over these bishops' heads, but over the lower figures; they are not easily read, owing to the numerous contractions, but appear uninteresting.

The birds in the "oriel window" are not entirely gone. . . . Of the wooden chair at the bottom of the hall I can learn no authentic account; on one side, at the top, are carved the arms of Coventry; opposite, are two lions rampant supporting a crown or coronet, but so much injured it is hard to determine which. It has evidently been a double chair originally, the parts where the other half fitted in being very visible. Perhaps it was made for the reception of Henry VI. and his queen, when they visited the guild, or it may be more modern. It would be highly gratifying to the writer of this to have any light thrown upon its history. Σ.

[1793, *Part II.*, pp. 1162-1164.]

Many of the paintings were removed on account of the repairs when R. G. visited the hall. These are half-lengths of Elizabeth, James I., Charles I., and Sir Thomas White, Norton, Jesson, and Massey, who were great benefactors to the city. Whole-lengths of Charles II. and James II. by Sir Peter Lely, in the habit of the Garter; William and Mary (copies) in their coronation robes; originals of Anne, George I., George II., and Caroline, in their coronation robes, and a capital painting of his present Majesty by Lawrance, in the habit of the Garter; the frame superb, and the whole picture worthy the donor, Lord Eardley, one of the present members for the city.

The kitchen and some other offices are on the ground-floor, not under-ground. In R. G.'s account there is evidently an omission either by him or the printer; his description reads: "at each extremity of a large arch, over the coppers, an angel holding this shield," without any farther account of the shield, which contains a mark or monogram, probably the builder's; the letters *J. B.* are

quite distinct. I send you a sketch of one of them, hoping some of your intelligent readers may decipher it (Plate II. Fig. 1).

A "room at the lower end of the hall, where the business of the corporation is done," is not called St. Mary's Parlour, but the Council House; neither is there a painting of Godiva in it; that painting is now, and always used to be, hung in the hall.

Opposite is another room called the old Council House, which it appears R. G. did not see. It is worth his observation; some carved figures on the oak roof are very well executed; the walls are covered with painted cloth, put up about the time of Elizabeth, but is now hastening very fast to decay. Adjoining is the treasury, where the writings belonging to the corporation are deposited.

The cellars on lease are under the hall, not "under the great arch to the court," over which arch and the Mercer's chapel adjoining (now used as a warehouse, with how much propriety let the present members of that ancient company determine), is the mayoress' parlour, or rather, as it is newly named, the new council house, communicating with the hall, now occupied by the glazier who is "patching up" the north window. About seven years since this room underwent a complete repair, at which time the builder, with great taste, introduced a Venetian window, so discordant with the adjoining beautiful Gothic windows; I wonder it escaped the notice and censure of your correspondent. R. G. is under a mistake as to the time of erecting the cross. Dugdale says it was begun in 33 Henry VIII.; but a copy of the indenture with the builders, printed in Hearne's "*Liber Niger Scaccarii*," fixes it to his thirty-fourth year. Much is it to be regretted that this ornament of the city should have been suffered to decay so much as to afford a pretext in the year 1771 for its entire demolition. In 1629 the corporation expended £323 4s. 6d., considerably more than the original cost, in repairing, painting, and gilding it, and, in 1667, they again repaired and beautified it. I wish their successors had inherited a portion of the same spirit. The statue of Henry VI. was preserved out of the general wreck, and is now in a garden at Coventry, very little injured. It is not only the west front of the tower of St. Michael's Church that is dangerously cracked; the south side is nearly as bad, and the north considerably injured. The mode of repairing is by internal frames and external bands of iron entirely, at certain distances up the tower, the ends of which are secured by very powerful screws, the decayed and fractured stones taken out and replaced with new ones.

The intended frame of timber-work, mentioned by R. G., is meant to support the bells, so that they may not rest upon the tower, and has no further concern in securing it. How far lowering the bells may affect their sound remains to be proved; but I should think there can be but one opinion as to the necessity of the measure,

when, according to Mr. Wyatt's judgment, the preservation of the tower depends upon it. Here, Mr. Urban, suffer me to lament that the subscription opened for carrying on these necessary and expensive repairs has not hitherto been honoured with the names of some of the numerous and respectable antiquaries which the present day has to boast of, and who, I am very sure, would deeply regret the loss of this exquisite structure. At a moderate expense they have now an opportunity of indulging a favourite propensity, and will have the satisfaction of reflecting that they have assisted in preserving this noble pile for the admiration of succeeding antiquaries. Our present diocesan, I am sorry to say, has not yet added his name to the list of subscribers, though he is one of the committee appointed for conducting the business; the very liberal subscription raised for repairing and beautifying Lichfield Cathedral will, I trust, induce him to be equally liberal in support of a church formerly very nearly connected with his see. Σ.

[1803, *Part I.*, p. 497.]

The enclosed drawing (Fig. 2) is a faithful representation of a massy gold ring, which about a month since was dug up in the park adjoining Coventry. It weighs 1 oz. 13 dwts., and presents a striking picture of the wealth, while it exhibits an union of the religion and superstition, of the period when it was made, which, from the form of the letters and other circumstances, I am inclined to think was about the time of Henry VI., the era when Coventry was at its greatest splendour and consequence.

In the centre compartment is Christ rising from the sepulchre; behind are seen the nails, spear, sponge, and various emblems of His passion. The ring is divided into three other compartments by representations of the five wounds of Christ, which (as well as the drops of blood issuing from each) are enamelled red to heighten the resemblance. To every wound is an appropriate motto: thus to the first two:

"The well of pity."
"The well of merci."

To the two next:

"The well of comfort."
"The well of grace,"

and to the single large wound, intended for that in His side:

"The well of everlasting life."

Within the ring is this inscription:

"Vulnera quinq' dei sunt medicina mei pia
Crux et passio x'pi sunt medicina michi Iaspar
Melchior baltasar abanyseptia tetragrammaton,"

the analogy of which, to "michi" inclusive, is very obvious; but the words following may require some explanation.

Jaspar, Melchior, Baltasar, are the supposed names of the three Kings of Colen, imagined to be the Magi who presented offerings to Christ ; "avanyzapta" I leave to exercise the genius of your numerous learned correspondents ; "tetragrammaton" was a word first used by the Greeks to express the name of God, because in most of the ancient languages it consists of four letters, as יְהוָה, Θεός, Deus. This strange assemblage was intended to form an amulet or charm for the protection and prosperity of the wearer. Σ.

[1804, *Part I.*, p. 224.]

The church of St. Michael at Coventry is a fine piece of Gothic architecture, and its spire the most beautiful in the kingdom. Many of the buildings that are still to be seen were palaces of the nobility and gentry. The first Sir Orlando Bridgman lived in Little Park Street ; Sir William Dugdale, the historian, in Cross Cheaping ; the late Lord Lifford, Lord Chancellor of Ireland (Hewitt) was born in Dugdale's house. I. T.

[1813, *Part I.*, p. 39.]

I noticed as I passed through Coventry last week that the beautiful church of St. Michael in that city had been defaced by the erection of a high brick chimney at the upper end of the north side, obtruding itself upon the view at all the points from which that noble edifice is best seen. It has been erected, I suppose, in consequence of some plan for warming the church, which may perhaps have been necessary ; but the churchwardens are highly inexcusable that they did not endeavour to accomplish their purpose without destroying the symmetry of the building ; the more so, too, as they might doubtless have been assisted by the advice of an eminent antiquarian, their townsman, whose name frequently graces your pages, I mean Mr. T. Sharp ; he would have taught them how to combine elegance with utility, and to make their alteration subservient to the purest style. VIATOR.

[1804, *Part I.*, p. 400.]

Having lately searched Trinity Church, in this city, for the painted glass representing Earl Leofric and his good Countess Godiva, the memorable patroness of Coventry (as mentioned in Dugdale), I was much mortified to learn that, some years ago, it had fallen a sacrifice to the rage for improvement, which in its devastating course then visited the windows of this church, sweeping away, with the clumsy, heavy tracery of the architects of the Dark Ages, all the stained glass in one undistinguished ruin, and my efforts here to recover either the glass or a drawing of the subject have proved ineffectual.

A BROTHER ANTIQUARY.

[1829, *Part I.*, pp. 120, 121.]

In your Magazine for May, 1824, I observed a letter, signed "A Brother Antiquary," in which the writer states that he had searched Trinity Church, Coventry, for the painted glass representing Earl Leofric and his good Countess Godiva, as mentioned by Sir William Dugdale in his "History of Warwickshire," and he regrets that it had fallen a sacrifice to the rage for improvement.

Sir William informs us that, in the reign of Richard II., a representation of the Earl and his Countess was to be seen in a south window in Trinity Church. In his right hand the Earl held a charter of freedom, granted to the inhabitants, containing the following inscription in Old English characters :

"I Luriche (Leofric) for the love of thee,
Doe make Coventre Tol-free."

The above statement of "A Brother Antiquary" is certainly erroneous, as the figures, although in a very mutilated state, are still remaining, and copies of which, reduced from tracings, I have forwarded to you for insertion. The upper figure is supposed to be a representation of the Countess in a yellow dress on horseback. I am credibly informed that the figures and inscription were in a tolerably perfect state about fifty or sixty years ago; but at that time an eastern window was reglazed by one Jervis, of Earl Street, in this city, when the figure of Leofric and another of Godiva, with long-flowing yellow hair, and other fragments were placed in a centre compartment in the disjointed state in which we now view them. In its original state, the arms of the Earl and the Benedictine Monastery, which he endowed, in Coventry, viz., the Spread Eagle, was placed beneath the figures.

Mr. Nichols, in his "Illustrations of Literature" (vol. iv., p. 507), states that Dr. Stukeley left a considerable number of original drawings of religious antiquities in three volumes, and that in the first volume (p. 28) was a representation of Leofric and Godiva in Trinity Church, taken in its original state, probably before the year 1730.

W. READER.

[1832, *Part I.*, p. 139.]

On lately passing through Coventry, I was gratified to observe a new church erected to the ancient steeple and beautiful spire formerly belonging to the Grey Friars. The Church of the Holy Trinity is also under a due course of repair; the stone pulpit has been amended, with strict attention to its architectural beauty, and a large and curious painting of the Resurrection has been discovered under the whitewash on the tower.

The adjoining Church of St. Michael did not fail to attract my notice; and I was much gratified with the excellent state of repair

in which it is kept, and the attention paid to the ancient monuments. The ancient Consistory Court, also called the Drapers' Chapel, has been restored; the oak stalls, with their curious carved seats, representing the Dance of Death, the Resurrection, the Root of Jesse, and other emblematical devices, divested of oil, paint, etc., and the desks and ornamented pillars repaired in the most perfect manner by Mr. Lines, a cabinet-maker of the place. In addition to these, there are recently erected three open ornamented oak screens of incomparable beauty, formed, I was told, of scattered remnants of carving from other parts of the church. The roof of this chapel has also not been neglected; and it is evident, from the ornaments recently put up, that the ancient model has been faithfully preserved and copied. Great praise is due to Mr. William Reader, the superintending churchwarden, who formed the plan and carried it successfully to completion—a bookseller in Coventry, who has written and published various works on the antiquities of the city, and has been an occasional contributor on that subject to your pages.

VIATOR.

[1841, *Part II.*, p. 584.]

I send some extracts from the churchwardens' accounts of Coventry:

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, COVENTRY.

Queen Elizabeth's arms still remain. (I think the date is 1591.)

1603. Arms of James I., which cost £2 6s. 8d. for gold, silver, frame, and workmanship.

1625. Arms of Charles I. painted in the vestry, cost 16s.

1650. The King's arms washed out in three places of the church.

1651. The arms of the State painted, cost £4 3s.

1660. The State's arms removed and arms of Charles II. substituted, which cost £6, and which still remain.

The initials "C. R. 1660" are still to be seen carved in wood in the vestry.

TRINITY CHURCH, COVENTRY.

1593. Paid 2s. to the painter for drawing the Queen's arms in the vestry.

1614. Paid £5 10s. for painting the arms of James I. For the board, 11s.

1615. The Prince's arms painted.

1632. Paid 10s. for drawing the King's arms in the vestry.

1647. Paid the painter 3s. 6d. for defacing the King's arms.

1651, June. Paid for the arms of the Commonwealth £5 5s.

1660. Paid the painter £6 for the arms of Charles II.

— Paid 12s. for ringing all night, when the King came to London (Charles II.).

W. READER.

Deretend.

[1818, *Part I.*, pp. 497, 498.]

Saint John's Chapel, Deretend, was founded about 4 Richard II., 1381; and by an agreement, dated June 13 of that year, between the monks of Newport Pagnell (then commonly called Tikford Priory) in right of their rectory of Aston, the then Vicar of Aston, and Sir John Botetort, Knight, patron of the priory, of the one part, and Sir John Birmingham, Knight, and several inhabitants of Deretend and Bordesley, of the other part, it was agreed, with the consent of the bishop of the diocese, partly in respect of the floods and the distance from the mother church, and partly that the children of the said inhabitants of the two hamlets might not want baptism in case of necessity, that there should be a font in the said chapel; and that they might have liberty to find at their own proper costs a fitting priest to celebrate Divine service therein, and for the churcing of women, provided that the same inhabitants should repair to the mother church on the several days there specified to pay tithes and oblations, as had anciently been used, which priest, in case the Vicar of Aston could not attend to it, was to visit the sick in the hamlets of Deretend and Bordesley, and confess and absolve them, so as they should shrive themselves once a year to the said Vicar of Aston or his parochial priest.

In 6 Richard II. William Geffer and others obtained the King's license to give lands in the said parish, of the annual value of 10 marks, for finding a priest to celebrate Divine worship daily in this chapel; but Henry VIII., in the year 1537, seized the estates as chantry lands, then valued at £13 1s. 7d. per annum, and probably soon afterwards, on the application of the inhabitants, caused a regular salary to be allowed for Divine worship, as it appears that John Mole and Edward Keys were the two officiating priests there in 1553, at an annual sum of £5 each.

The windows contained a whole-length figure of Walter Arden, Esq., with the motto "*Salvator Mundi miserere mei*" on a label, and the arms of Lord Dudley, and of Dudley impaling Berkley, which, as well as the original fabric, are long since destroyed; but a sketch of the building has been preserved as it is said to have stood about the year 1590. Of the value of this preferment for the next century or more very little is now known, but no doubt it continued to increase by voluntary contributions; and, in the year 1677, Humphry Lowe, of Coventry, Esq., conveyed a very valuable estate in the parish of Rowley Regis, containing about sixty-six acres, to various inhabitants of Deretend and Bordesley, their heirs and assigns, upon trust, out of the rents and profits thereof, to provide and maintain a chaplain for the said chapel; and, when necessity should require, and no other means be had for repairing the said

chapel, then to lay out and expend so much of the rent of the said estate as would be necessary for repairing thereof; and upon further trusts for disposal of the rents in case of the said chapel being vacant, and for the appointment of new trustees when such trustees should be reduced to three. The last appointment of new trustees took place about twenty-two years since, and there are eight of that appointment now living.

The value of the above estate and the other property belonging to this chapel has varied at different periods, having been during the life of the last respected incumbent, the Rev. Thomas Cox, little more than £100 a year; but times have so changed, leases have expired, and property has so much increased in value, that the present annual income is generally understood to be about £400, inclusive of the Rowley estate, nearly as much as the vicarage produces. The present chapel was erected in the year 1735, and, in consequence of the prevailing taste for placing the chancel towards the east, presents a very irregular appearance in the street, its corner projecting beyond the line of the other buildings. In the year 1762 a neat square tower was added, which in 1777 received eight very musical bells, and a clock for the accommodation of the neighbourhood.

The list of ministers of this chapel for upwards of a century contains the following names:

James Spilsbury	...	...	...	died or resigned	1699
Israel Warton	...	...	elected in 1699	"	1714
John Hawes	...	"	1714	"	1716
Richard Gibbons	...	"	1716	"	1717
John Hanstead	...	"	1717	"	1755
Thomas Cox	...	"	1755	"	1791
John Darwall	...	"	1791	"	living

The chapel is of brick, with stone casings to the doors and windows, and calculated to contain upwards of 1,100 persons conveniently, but, from its situation, incapable of enlargement, although the great and increasing population of the neighbourhood renders more accommodation absolutely necessary.

ORTHODOX.

Dunchurch.

[1795, *Part II.*, pp. 988, 989.]

Dunchurch, a village of about fifty houses and two or three inns (the principal of which is the Dun Cow), between Coventry and Daventry. The church consists of a nave on three pointed arches on a side on octagon pillars, with embattled capitals, and two aisles, the arch into the chancel pointed, a pendant on the north side charged with an oak-sprig, a north porch and south door. The west

door of the tower has a very handsome arch. Against the south aisle a white marble tablet with open marble doors :

"Here lieth interred the body of Thomas Newcome, esq., a worthy citizen of London and servant to his late majesty k. Ch. II. in his printing-office, who departed this life 26 December, 1681, in the 53d year of his age ; in memory of whom his son, Tho. Newcome, esq., servant likewise to his late majesty and to his present majesty king James II. in the same office, erected this monument. He likewise departed this life March 21, 1691, being Good Friday."

On the left door :

"Mrs. Dorothy Hutchinson, relict of Thomas Newcome, sen., esq., departed this life Feb. 28, 1718."

Arms : A lion's head erased between three crescents.

On a wooden tablet against a south pillar :

"Here lyeth the body of Margaret Hixon, daughter of Thomas Manley, of Manley in the county of Chester, esq., & wife to Tho. Hixon, of Greenwich in the county of Kent, who lies there entombed with the inscription of these titles on his monument : Master of arts Oxon., souldier under Henry IV., king of France, gentleman of the bedchamber to queen Elizabeth, yeoman of the removing wardrop, keeper of the standing wardrop and privy lodgings at Greenwich to queen Elizabeth and king James, by which husband, Thomas Hixon, shee had five sons, viz., Robert, Humphry, Thomas, John and William, also 3 daughters, viz., Elizabeth, Margaret, and Katherine. She departed this life the 21 of April, 1632."

Gules, on a coronet a raven's head—R. Hixon.

Gules, on a torse a man's head g. bearded of the second—Manley.

O., a raven's legs, in saltire S. imp. A., a hand S. quartering V., a bend erm.

On the north side of the churchyard a tomb for Edward Dacres, clerk, thirty-eight years vicar, who died June 1, 1733, aged 64.

Another for John Pitts, son of Richard, who succeeded his father as schoolmaster, and died 1743, aged 20.

BENEFACTIONS.

John Spicer, of Woolchurch, gave by will, dated March 30, 1618, £50 to the poor, the principal secured on land belonging to the almshouses, and £2 10s. yearly deducted from the rent and distributed to the poor on St. John the Evangelist's Day.

William Smith, of Kites Hardware, gent., by will dated August 23, 1711, 4s. annuity on Easter Sunday.

William Fawkes, of Toft, gent., 1737, £2 in bread on St. Thomas's Day.

Near the church to the west are six almshouses, with this inscription :

"These almshouses are the legacie of Tho' Newcome, esq., printer to king Charles the 2d, king James the 2d, and his present Majesty king William 3d, for the maintenance of 3 poor men and 3 poor widows borne in this parish, built and endowed by his widow and executrix in the year of our Lord God 1693."

Tho. Newcome, jun., gave by will £600 for this purpose; the building cost £150, and the rest was laid out in purchase of land at Shawell, in Leicestershire. The vicar for the time being manages the whole, and makes up the allowance 1s. 6d. a week, and with coals 9s. or 10s.

In the middle of the town is a base of a cross on four steps.

At the bottom of the road from Hampton, in Arden, to Meriden is a perfect cross on the side of the Birmingham road.

Eatington.

[1801, *Part I.*, p. 393.]

In the church of Eatington, in Warwickshire, is a marble monument, placed there in his lifetime by Captain George Shirley, a younger son of Robert, the first Earl Ferrers, by his second lady, in memory of his parents and himself. This gentleman died about 1797, and I have to request that some Warwickshire friend would favour you with the curious inscription on his tomb at Eatington.

H.

Edgbaston.

[1825, *Part I.*, pp. 393, 394.]

I have enclosed you a view of Edgbaston Church (see Plate I.) as it appeared in 1797, which gives more of its primitive effect; since that time the two gables at the east end are formed into a single roof, which gives it a top-heavy appearance, and the north and south windows being modernized, the fine sombre effect it formerly had is destroyed. The arms of Edgbaston, Middlemore, Throgmorton, etc., mentioned by Dugdale to have been in the windows, I sought for in vain.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, was much mutilated in the Civil War, when Edgbaston House was garrisoned by the Parliament forces; at that time probably the ancient monumental memorials were destroyed.

The annexed church notes were taken when I visited the church, July 10, 1822.

On a table monument of marble against the north wall:

"Hic juxta columnam situs est RICHARDUS GOUGH, miles, antiquæ de stirpe, in Agro Staffordiensi, ortus; eximiis et virtutis ac prudentiæ laudibus clarus et insignis post decursa æquora repetitis vicibus ad Indias Orientales paterna bona, haud adeo magna, felicissimè adauxit. Æquitas, libertas, et honesta omnia proposita propugnatores illum invenire constantissimum. Natus x^{mo} die Octobris, MDCLIX., mortuus ix^{mo} die Febr., MDCCXXVII., Superstites habuit uxorem, quatuor liberos.

"Filius HENRICUS GOUGH, Baronettus, Parentis memoriæ pie consulens, hoc saxum ponendum curavit."

Arms: Gules, on a fess or, a lion passant sable, between three boars' heads coupé argent. Crest: A boar's head coupé at the neck argent.

On a monument against the north wall, the whole in roman capitals :

"Sir HENRY GOUGH, Bart., son of Sir Richard Gough, Knt., died June VIII., MDCCCLXXIV., aged LXVII. years. On account of the delicacy of his constitution, after having served in two Parliaments, he quitted the busier scenes of life for the repose of domestic retirement, and resided chiefly at his seat in this parish, universally possessing the respect and esteem so justly due to the affectionate husband, the tender father, and the honest man.

"BARBARA, wife of Sir Henry Gough, Bart., and only daughter of Reynolds Calthorpe, Esq., of Elvetham, in the county of Hants, after fulfilling in the most exemplary manner the duties of wife, mother, and Christian, exchanged this life for a better, April xviii., MDCCCLXXXII., aged LXVII. years.

"In memory of both his much revered parents, their eldest son, Sir Henry Gough Calthorpe, Bart., caused this monument to be erected."

Arms : Gough, impaling Calthorpe, Chequy or, and azure, a fesse ermine.

Against the north wall, on a tablet, supporting a pyramid, on which, in bas-relief, is a female reclining her left arm on an urn ; on the tablet is the following inscription :

"Sacred to the memory of the Right Hon. LORD CALTHORPE, Baron of CALTHORPE, in the county of Norfolk, who was the eldest son of Sir Henry Gough, Bart., of this place. He married Frances, second daughter of General Carpenter, by whom he had issue seven sons and four daughters ; was created a Peer of Great Britain on the 15th of June, 1796, and resigned his life to his Almighty Creator on the 16th day of March, 1798, in the fiftieth year of his age. His widow, who had the happiness of living with him under the strongest bonds of affection, has caused this monument to be erected in testimony of her everlasting regard and gratitude to a most affectionate husband and kind friend."

On a tablet against the south wall outside the church :

"To the memory of THOMAS HANSON,* late of Birmingham, Surveyor, who died Sept. 22, 1796, aged 62 years."

[Verses omitted.]

On a neat tablet of white marble against the south wall :

"Sacred to the memory of WILLIAM WITHERING, M.D., F.R.S., &c., &c., who was born March 28, 1741, and died Oct. 6, 1794, aged 53 years."

[Verses omitted.]

On a small headstone, much mutilated, on the north-east side of the churchyard :

"Here lyeth the body of Richard, the son of Edward Richards, who departed this life, Sept. y^e 21st, 1728, aged 17 years."

[Verses omitted.]

The above was written and cut on the stone by the celebrated Mr. John Baskerville, of Birmingham, on a youth of slender intellects.

D. PARKES.

* Mr. Hanson was an eminent land surveyor who resided in Birmingham. He published an accurate plan of the town in 1778, in two imperial sheets, which he reduced for Mr. Hutton's history of the town in 1781.

Edgehill.

[1746, p. 640.]

Figs. 2, 2 in the accompanying plate represent leaden bullets of that size, and very solid, lately taken up in Kineton field, where on October 22, 1642, was the battle called Edgehill fought between King Charles I. and the Parliament army, commanded by the Earl of Essex, who was defeated, 6,000 being slain on both sides.

The two large bullets weigh near an ounce and a half, and are seven-tenths of an inch in diameter. There were some smaller, with large holes, seemingly decayed. The double bullet weighs not quite an ounce, each head of which is four lengths and a half in diameter.

Edston.

[1814, *Part I.*, pp. 440, 441.]

The residence of Somerville, the poet, was at Edston, in the parish of Wootton Wawen, five miles from Stratford, and at Wootton the poet was buried. . . .

It has never been noticed among Somerville's works that he composed a monumental inscription, in Stratford-upon-Avon Church, to the memory of Mr. Nathaniel Mason, an eminent attorney of this town, which is here transcribed :

"H. S. E.

"Nathaniel Mason, Generosus, Dei cultor, Hominum amator, fidei datæ observantissimus, in negotiis agendis solers, accuratus, sine fuco probus ; bis matrimonium contraxit, nunquam violavit ; uxoribus placens amicus, liberis monitor fidelis, servis exactor minimè severus : valens hilariter vixit, non improvidè ; morbo affectus, æquo animo tulit, et Christo fidens impavidus obiit 12^o Februarii, 1734, ætat 63."

Somerville was born in 1692, and died July 19, 1742. His seat at Edston, with a trifling exception, has been many years rebuilt.

R. B. WHELER.

Halford.

[1806, *Part I.*, p. 199.]

On a flat stone, near the south entrance of Halford Church, co. Warwick, is this inscription :

"Here lieth interred the body of Ann Halford, late wife and relict of William Halford, of this parish, gent., one of the dau'rs of Matthew Holbech, of Meriden, in this county, esq., by his wife Elizabeth, dau'r of John Anthony of London, merchant, descended from the antient family of the Anthonys, of Ar . . estone, in the county of Devon. She departed this life the 28th day of May, 1729, in the 46th year of her age.

"A woman truly amiable in all those virtues and endowments of the mind which are the peculiar glory and ornament of her sex."

The word, two letters of which are nearly obliterated, appears to have been Artlestone. If any correspondent would point out in

what part of the county Artlestone is situated, and give information respecting the arms of this ancient family, or the ancestors and descendants of it, the information will be thankfully received by
PHOSPHORUS.

[1806, *Part II.*, p. 1099.]

Upon seeing Halford Church, in the county of Warwick, mentioned in your Magazine, it occurred to me that I had several years ago taken a drawing of a very singular figure fixed in the tower of that church as a spout to carry off the water (Plate I., Fig. 5). The figure represents a clergyman in his gown and cassock, with one hand upon his head and the other at his mouth, in the operation of vomiting. It appeared to be made of a blackish stone, and rather larger than life. When I took the drawing I had not time to examine the monuments in the church, but from the appearance of the tower and figure, I think it must be a very ancient structure.

H. ROOKE.

Hampton-in-Arden.

[1824, *Part I.*, pp. 201, 202.]

The accompanying south-east view, taken in December, 1822, of the parish church of Hampton-in-Arden, in Warwickshire (see Plate I.), is submitted to you as an appropriate subject for an engraving in the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

The original foundation of this church, which is dedicated to Our Lady and St. Bartholomew, may be referred to a very early period, but I do not find any record of the precise time. Dugdale, in his "Antiquities of Warwickshire," states that a church in this place is mentioned in Domesday; and he gives a list of patrons and incumbents from the year 1250, to which his continuator, Dr. Thomas, has prefixed the names of three previous incumbents. It is also stated by Dugdale that "this church, being situate on so fair an ascent, had a tall spire, which was a noted mark to a great part of the woodland, till by the extraordinary violence of lightning and thunder, happening on St. Andrew's Day at night, in the year 1643, it was cloven and fell to the ground, at which time the whole fabric, with the tower, were torn in divers places." . . .

All the arms in the windows and upon gravestones in this church engraved in Dugdale are gone or defaced.

One inscription, as being curious, I beg to transcribe from Dugdale, who states it to be upon a stone, "whereon are the portraitures in brass of a man and his wife," but the copy was not quite faithful to the original in orthography:

"hic iacent Richardus Brokes baliuus de hampton in Ardena et Isota
uxor eius.

"*Han, it behoves thee oft to hane in minde
That thou dealest with thy hand that shalt thou find :
Children bin sloothfull and wives bin unkind,
Executors bin covetous and keep all that they find."*

This stone I found about the centre of the middle aisle, stripped of the greater part of its brasses. The figure of the woman is all that remains, excepting a small piece of the end of that brass on which the two last lines of the inscription were engraved. The brass containing the first two lines, "*Hic jacent,*" etc., was lying loose on an old wooden chest in the vestry, which is the low building on the right hand of the view.

Dr. Thomas remarks that on the south wall of the chancel, cut in stone, is an angel holding a shield on his breast, on which are two lions. This, though not alluded to by Dugdale, is perhaps the most ancient and curious relic now remaining in the church, and deserving of more particular notice. It rests on the floor of the chancel, and has been much defaced by successive daubings of a white or stone-coloured wash. There is no inscription upon it.

In the churchyard, facing the eastern end of the church, are the remains of an ancient stone cross, but the perspective and inequality of the ground prevented their being shown in the drawing. There are several yew-trees in the churchyard.

The church is a vicarage in the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. Patrons, the master and brethren of the Hospital of Robert, Earl of Leicester, at Warwick. Present incumbent, the Rev. Richard Lillington.

Of other particulars concerning this church I purpose taking notes at a future opportunity, and they shall be much at Mr. Urban's service if acceptable.

In 1690 George Fentham, of Birmingham, mercer, by his will gave certain freehold estates upon trust, to apply the yearly income thereof for ever to charitable purposes in the parish of Hampton (the place of his birth), namely, in teaching and instructing the poor children of the parish, in setting them out apprentices, and in relieving and encouraging poor inhabitants of the parish who honestly labour and endeavour to maintain themselves and their families without charging the parish therewith, or "other like charitable matter." The selection of the particular objects of the above charity, and, for the most part, the apportionment of the funds to the several purposes of the trust, is left in the discretion of the major part of the male copyholders inhabiting within the manor, a certain number of whom are the trustees of the charity estates, the present gross income of which is about £150 per annum.

The parish of Hampton-in-Arden, through which runs the little river Blithe, is situate about midway between Birmingham and Coventry, in the Hundred of Hemlingford. It is extensive, and

comprises the villages or hamlets of Knowle, Balsall, and several others. Knowle and Balsall have separate churches or chapels, to which Hampton-in-Arden is the mother church. Of Knowle Chapel there is a good engraving in your volume for 1808 (part ii., p. 769), from a drawing by your worthy friend Mr. Hamper.*

The village of Hampton-in-Arden being at an inconvenient distance from the turnpike road to Coventry on the north and that to Warwick on the south is a place of very little resort, and does not exhibit much sign of increase or improvement. Its weekly market is disused, but two annual fairs are held here. The population, exclusive of Knowle and Balsall, is probably about 400.

The manor belongs to the Crown, as does a considerable quantity of land in the parish.

The open fields and waste lands in the manor were divided and enclosed under an Act of Parliament passed in 1805.

For additional information concerning the church, parish, and manor of Hampton in early times, see Dugdale's "Warwickshire," Dr. Thomas's edition.

GEO. YATES.

[1795, *Part II.*, pp. 987, 988.]

Hampton-in-Arden is a village of about forty teams, in Hemlingford Hundred, Warwickshire. The church stands on the south side, on a high situation, consisting of a nave with two aisles, and north porch, a chancel, and west embattled tower. The south door of the chancel has a flowered bouquet arch, with the head of a bishop and a man in a high-curved cap. Just within the entrance, under an arch, an angel holds a shield, with a lion rampant or, as Dugdale, p. 958, edit. Thomas, two lions. The tall spire, a noted mark to a great part of the woodland, was by a storm of thunder and lightning on St. Andrew's night, 1643, cloven, and fell to the ground, at which time the whole fabric, with the tower, were torn in divers places. The nave rests on four pointed arches on round pillars, the north capitals of the Saxon kind, the south plain flowers. The font plain and round; near it a brass figure of a woman holding a rosary and purse, the man gone. Under her this inscription:

"Non p' behoues the off to haue i mynd
p' p' depest w' p' hand p' shalt p' fynde
Childyr bene sclotheil & wiffys ben unky'd,
excecutions cobetose & kepe al p' p' p' fynd.
Hic iacent Ricardus Stokys Salier de hampton in ardenie
et Isota uxor eius quor' aiabus p' p'ietur deus amen."

BENEFACTIONS TO THE POOR.

		£	s.	d.
Henry Marsh, gent., 1617	...	20	0	0
Tho. Wombwell, gent., 1630	...	30	0	0

* *Post*, p. 72.

In 1686 the following sums :

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Sir Henry Parker, bart. ...	20	0	0	Sir Clement Fisher, bart. ...	5	0	0
Robert Loggins ...	10	0	0	Wm. Loggis, gent. ...	10	0	0
John Fisher, gent. ...	10	0	0	Geo. Bradnock ...	5	0	0
Geo. Knight ...	5	0	0	Tho. Dyalls, sen. ...	5	0	0
Tho. Wall ...	5	0	0	Geo. Dyall ...	3	0	0
Tho. Digall ...	5	0	0	Richard Thompson	3	0	0
Bernard Evats, gent.	3	0	0	Math. Mason ...	2	3	0
John Fisher ...	1	10	0	John Biddle ...	1	10	0
Simon Mason ...	1	0	0	Henry Taylor ...	1	0	0
Tho. Loomb ...	1	0	0	John Atkin ...	1	0	0
Wm. Pantham ...	1	0	0	Wm. Harding ...	1	0	0
Tho. Dawes ...	0	10	0	Nath. } Mason {	0	10	0
Eliz. Gardiner, widow	0	10	0	Clement }	0	10	0
John Barber ...	0	10	0				

with which several sums was bought Hampton town land, and in Balsall £5 per annum.

Mural monument against the north wall of the chancel for Wm. Aberall, of Balsall, 1707.

O., a fess between three porcupines, G. imp. S., a cross flory erm.

It is a vicarage in the patronage of the Earl of Leicester's hospital at Warwick, 1782. The present vicar, Mr. Lissington, succeeds his father George, who resigned in his favour, and died suddenly at Warwick, March 3, 1794. The church is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Bartholomew; and here was the chapel of Nuthurst, now destroyed. Knoll is another of the six hamlets in this parish.

The family of Arden, or Hamton, held this manor from the reign of Stephen to that of Edward I., when it came by marriage of an heiress to the Peches, and in like manner from them, temp. Richard II., to the Montforts of Colshill, and 11 Henry VII. escheated to the Crown, to which, after divers grants, it at present belongs.

Sir John and Joan Peché had a French epitaph in the chancel in Dugdale's time, now gone, as are all the arms on gravestones and in the windows.

In 1771 was found in this parish and Knoll manor a dark-brown urn, containing fifteen pounds weight of coins of the lower empire—Gallienus Salonina, Tetricus, jun., etc.—on a considerable eminence about 1½ miles from Arborough Banks, a Roman road about 10 miles north-east from Alcester, 20 south-west from the Watling Street, and 12 north-west from the Foss.

D. H.

Hatton.

[1805, *Part II.*, pp. 995, 996.]

The church of Hatton stands at a distance south from the village in fields, and consists of a body and chancel of one pace, a west tower, the west window of which is very handsome, and its arch purfled, and terminating in a bouquet, with the heads of a horse and another animal at the bottom.

Under a flat canopy, supported by iron pillars, an altar-tomb, with this inscription :

"To the memory of Mrs. Mary Edis, relict of Mr. William Edis, and daughter of the Rev. John Bree, of Beaufall, and Frances his wife, a true and worthy member of the Church of England, which, among other things, appeared eminent by acts of charity to the parish, in building the school-house, which her husband endowed, in giving £200 to procure Queen Anne's Bounty, and 10 guineas in 1744 towards the second Augmentation. Nor was she unmindful of her friends and relations, but discharged all the duties of life with such propriety as to die full of good works in the 83d year of her age, and was buried on the 17th of May, 1756, by Mr. John Bree, her husband's executor.

"Here lieth the body of Mr. William Edis, a native of this parish, eminent in his profession, kind and generous to the poor; in his practice of great and prosperous industry. He departed this life, a general loss to his country, the 5th day of April, 1723, aged 64. In memory of whom this monument was erected by Mary his mournful widow. Thomas Bree, M.B., of Warwick."

Arms, a chevron between three birds' legs sable.

Portraits on the windows by Eginton, of Cranmer and the Holy Lamb, Tillotson and a Dove, Crucifixion, Peter and Paul.

On the north side of the chancel, in capital letters, on a marble, in imitation of the antique (see Plate I., Fig. 2), supporting a cenotaph adorned with flowers :

"A P Ω
 * *

"Joannes . Smitheman . qui . vixit . an . xv . mens . viiii . dieb . 17 . hor . 3 . Decessit . viiii . d . mart . anº . sacro . CIO CIO CC LXXXXIII. Joannes . & . Margaretta . Smitheman . Parentes . infelicissimi . unico . & . carissimo . filio . contra . votum . posuere ."

On the opposite wall a similar monument, but without flowers :

"P
 *

"Thomas . Nelson . A . M . vir . frugi . integerimus . sacerdotalibus . in . hac . ecclesia . muneribus . in . exemplum . perfunctus . & . de . successoribus . suis . quorum . redictus . augendos . curaverat . B . M . decessit . pridie . non . Octob . anno . sacro . MDCCLXX . ætat . suæ . LXI ."

On the same south side a white marble tablet to

"William Norcliffe, of the Inner Temple, Married Jane Miller, of Hyde-hall, Herts; died 1733, aged 63.

"Jane, to whom this parish, but particularly the curate, owes the greatest regard, died 1749, aged 60.

"Joseph Eberall, esq., lawyer at Warwick, died 1792, aged 59.

"Thomas Bree, M.D., died 1749.

VOL. XXV.

"Rev. Thomas Bree, A.M., 29 years Rector of Allesley in this county, died Feb. 2, 1771, aged 61.

"John Bree, of Braunseford, died 1786."

Hatton is only a curacy, formerly belonging to Wroxhall Priory. Now the clerk is nominated by the trustees, and appointed by the owner of Prinley Farm mansion-house (Bacon, p. 990). P. Q.

Henley in Arden.

[1815, *Part I.*, p. 129.]

As it is now a rare circumstance to meet with a perfect cross, I presume the representation of one still standing at Henley in Arden, Warwickshire (see Plate II.), will not be unacceptable to your readers. The base, shaft and capital of this cross are composed of three separate stones, the shaft being mortised into the base and capital. On the four faces of the capital were niches containing: (1) The rood; (2) the Trinity; (3) St. Peter with his key; the 4th fallen away. The head of this highly superstitious market-cross is reported to have been preserved from destruction by having been covered by a shed for many years. T. F.

Honiley.

[1848, *Part II.*, pp. 141, 142.]

In your Magazine for 1839, part ii., p. 616, it is noticed that King Edward IV. was arrested in the year 1469 by Archbishop Neville, with an armed band of horse, at Honiley in Warwickshire, and not at Ulney in Northamptonshire, or Olney in Buckinghamshire, as had been previously stated by several historians. This seizure was made by the advice of the Duke of Clarence and the Earl of Warwick. The King was then taken to Warwick Castle, from thence to York, and afterwards to Middleham Castle, from whence he escaped.

Honiley, Coleshill and other places in Warwickshire were at this period the property of Sir Simon Mountfort, and he was appointed by Edward (according to the Patent Rolls in Rymer) one of the Commissioners to raise the county of Warwick in 1470. As it appears that Mountfort made Honiley his principal residence, it is very probable, from the intimacy subsisting between them, that when the King required a place of concealment, he selected Honiley for the purpose, which was somewhat more than "four miles from Warwick," as stated by an historian—for it is six. Honiley became forfeited to the Crown by the attainder of Mountfort in 1495.

The large manor-house or hall probably built by this family was most pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence, and was taken down in 1803 by the Rev. John Granville, the landlord, in order to avoid the expense of its reparation. Thus fell another ancient baronial residence, a sacrifice to bad taste and ruinous economy.

There were gables in the front, with stacks of chimneys connected with each other at the angles, and the whole of the house externally was rough-casted. There was a porch at the entrance of a broad passage, two large parlours, and a kitchen whose height extended to the roof.

There was a tradition in the parish that the hall had been visited by a king and a queen, probably referring to Edward IV., and at a subsequent period to Queen Elizabeth, who in 1566 visited her favourite, Robert, Earl of Leicester, at Kenilworth Castle. Here the Mayor and Aldermen of Coventry were sumptuously entertained, the Recorder, Sir John Throgmorton, was knighted, and thirty bucks were given them by order of the Queen—probably some of which she had participated in the pleasure of hunting.

Again, in 1568, the Queen came unexpectedly to Coventry, and, being so near Kenilworth, would probably visit the castle.

The Queen was also there in August, 1572, when she was on a visit to Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, at Warwick Castle. Out of twenty days she spent sixteen at Kenilworth, "having such princely sports made to her Majesty as could be devised."

The Queen visited Kenilworth Castle again in July, 1575, for nineteen days, when, according to Laneham, she hunted "the hart of force" in the chase, and probably visited Honiley Hall, which place was at the extremity of his woods, about three miles from the castle. At this period the manor of Honiley belonged to the Earl of Leicester.

The drawing of the hall, of which I send you a copy, was taken by Mr. Jeayes, of Coventry, about the year 1798. W. READER.

Kenilworth.

[1787, *Part II.*, p. 657.]

I send you a fine drawing (Plate I.), by Moses Griffith, of the present church at Kenilworth, in Warwickshire. The famous castle at this place, the abode of Leicester, and the scene where chivalry displayed itself before Elizabeth in its utmost pomp, is now reduced to a beautiful ruin, but the church is almost new. EXPLORATOR.

[1840, *Part II.*, pp. 414, 415.]

During the last month excavations of a very interesting nature have been made on the site of the priory of Kenilworth. The churchyard having been found too small, it was determined to enlarge it by taking in a portion of the former site of the abbey, which adjoins it on the south. As the earth for a great distance below the surface was found to be full of the fragments of the ancient building, it was thought necessary to excavate it to the depth required for graves to clear it of the stones. In the course of this work the

Calvary, or burial-ground of the abbey, was uncovered 9 feet from the surface, in which were a number of sepulchral slabs, several of which were distinguished by ornamental crosses, some plain, and one ridge-backed, but none with any inscription. The slabs are mostly about 6 feet long and 2 feet wide. The crosses are all of various design, some being rather rudely executed. Two slabs were taken up, one of them with a cross, and the other the plain ridge-backed one above mentioned. Under the first, about 3 feet from the surface, was found a skeleton, which is believed by Mr. Bodington, surgeon (who was present when it was taken up), to be that of a person between sixty and seventy years old. The arms were crossed on the breast, and the fingers turned in under the armpits. The left arm had been broken during life, the place where it had united being distinctly marked. Several of the teeth were in good preservation, and every bone in its place, but they required to be carefully handled to prevent their falling to pieces. The earth surrounding the skeleton was of a redder colour than the rest, but no vestige of wood or iron could be found, which induces a belief that the body was buried without a coffin. The other skeleton was found in the same state, except that the arms were not crossed on the breast. In some parts of the same level were found portions of a flooring of enamelled tiles, of various designs, but from a great many the enamelled portion had separated, perhaps in consequence of the damp. Beyond this was discovered part of a basement, with buttresses at the angles, about 6 feet in height. This proved to be that of the chapter-house to the abbey, octagonal in form, and the breadth inside 25 feet. The walls at the base are 12 feet thick, and the upper slope of the basement 9 feet, an extraordinary thickness for so small a building, and far beyond what could be required to sustain the vaulting. In the centre is a strong foundation, which appears to have been that of the vaulting-pillar. Several walls have been found running between the chapter-house and the gateway, and in one was the remains of a fireplace. In every part of the ground fragments of building have been turned up, a great many consisting of portions of tracery of windows, which appear to have been of the character between the lancet and what is called by Mr. Rickman the "Decorated Style," with circular tracery at the head of the lights, prevailing in the time of Edward I. and II. A square Norman capital, which had formed part of a doorway, is distinguished by much spirit and elegance of style. It is stated to be the intention of the Earl of Clarendon, the proprietor, to continue the excavations over the remaining portions of the site.

Knowle.

[1793, *Part I.*, pp. 419-422.]

The favourable reception you give to every portion of British topography in your valuable miscellany induces me to try my skill in

a short description of a beautiful chapel at Knoll in Warwickshire, two miles from Solihull and eight from Birmingham, on the road to Warwick.

Sir William Dugdale ("History of Warwickshire," p. 958, edit. Thomas) informs us that Knoll was a member of Hampton in Arden till the time of King John, when it is first noticed as belonging to the family De Arden, till a wife of one of the co-heirs of that family passed it away to Eleanor, 9 Edward I., who held it till her death, when it was given, with sundry other manors in this and other counties, to the monks of Westminster towards keeping her anniversary. At the Dissolution it was annexed to the new-erected See of Westminster, afterwards changed into a deanery. Queen Elizabeth in her second year reassumed it with other lands, and in her fifteenth year granted it to Robert, Earl of Essex, who exchanged it with the Crown for other lands. It was granted 2 James I. to Sir Fulk Greville, Lord Brook, in whose family it continued when Dr. Thomas republished Dugdale in 1730. About the end of the reign of Edward II. Walter Cooke, Canon of Lincoln, considering that the place, which now contains about fifty houses, several inns and a town hall, was a mile from the parish church of Hampton, from which, I believe, it is distant about three of our modern miles, erected at his proper costs a fair chapel here, with a tower, steeple and bells, all on his father's own lands, to the honour of St. John Baptist, St. Laurence the Martyr and St. Anne, adding a churchyard, and endowing a secular priest to celebrate Divine service, so that there should be a font to baptize all infants born within this hamlet, and all persons there deceasing to be buried in the churchyard. John Burghill, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 1 Henry IV., granted his license to celebrate Divine service here; and license was granted the same year by the King to Walter Cooke, and Adam, his father, to found and establish a chantry of one or two priests, the advowson and patronage of which the said Walter granted to the monks of Westminster. A license to found a guild or fraternity here was obtained 14 Henry IV. As the founder's preferments increased,* he, with the concurrence of Elizabeth, widow of John, Lord Clinton, obtained a license, 4 Henry V., that himself, she, or their respective executors, might here found a college of ten chantry priests, with a common seal, one to be rector. But the endowment seems to have failed, or not to have taken place, for, 26 Henry VIII., and at the Dissolution, here were but two; the clear yearly revenue was £22 3s. 4d., and of the

* He was prebendary of Milton ecclesia, in the church of Lincoln, 1415, and died 1421, as Willis, 221, who yet makes him prebendary of Warthill in that of York from 1397 to 1423 (*ibid.*, 174). He was also treasurer of St. Paul's, which last office he resigned 1400. He was one of the executors of Thomas de Evere, Dean of St. Paul's, and founded, 12 Henry IV., a chantry of one priest in that church to pray for his soul (Newc., i., 42, 105). Dugdale adds that he was prebendary of Salisbury, but of this I find no other mention.

guild for three chantry priests, £29 14s. 7d. Many of the nobility and other eminent personages appear, by the register of this college, in the hands of — Archer, Esq., to have been members of this fraternity; and in the chapel window were the arms of Aylesbury, Somerville, Brome, Belknap, Sir Edward Ferrers, Marrow, Serjeant-at-law, and of Dr. Eborall, Master of the Mint, with quarterings and impalements. Thomas Dabridgecourt, whose father was buried here, made a south window of the chancel, which had his figure kneeling in armour. Sir William Wigston, whose daughter he married, made another, and Aylesbury a third. All the arms given by Dugdale, except part of the arms of Sir Edward Ferrers, with quarterings, in the east window, were gone in Thomas's time. The monuments are little altered or varied. Knoll was returned to the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, 1707, at £15 13s. 4d. per annum. The patronage is in the representatives of the Palmers, of Orton End, in Solihull adjoining.

On the south side of the churchyard is an old house of timber and plaster, divided into several tenements, said to be the mansion of the founder, or rather, of his family.

The chapel consists of a nave with two aisles and a chancel. The chancel has two lofty windows on a side. In the south wall are four stone seats of unequal heights, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in height by $2\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth; the three first 4 feet from the floor, the fourth 4 feet 9 inches, all under flowered arches, and over each ranges a cornice of oak-leaves; and above them to the east is a handsome piscina under a flowered arch sided by purfled finials.

Within the rails, on a slab :

"Depositum Dianæ e filiabus honorabilis FULCONIS GREVILLE Saræ conjugis ejus quæ nata est 14 die Aprilis sepulta 20 Mart. anno currente MDCLXXV. vitæ futuræ certior."

In a lozenge on a cross engrailed four roundels :

"DOROTHY, relict of John Dousset, daughter of Sir Arthur Hesilrigge, of Noseley, co. Leicester, bt. 29 June, ætat. 62. Anno Dom., 1705.

"JOHN DOUSET vere generosus antiqua prosapia Rhotomagi Normania Galliarum exortus desideratus hic dum vixit deploratus abhinc decessit die 6 Septemb. ætat. 54, A.D. 1698."

The glazed tiles in the chancel have the arms of Beauchamp :

In a chief, three stars, a fleur-de-lis, a round formed by four ragged staves, or trunks.

Without the rails is a slab for

"WILLIAM SPOONER, of Henwood-hall, gent., July 25, 1684."

In the north window :

"*p bono statu—Orate.*"

Here are two very massive oak iron-bound chests. Seven stalls on the north side, six on the south. On each side of the chancel is

a clerestory window. In the south, angels holding Az. a cross a. —Aylesbury; impaling Barry of six, or and az.—Pembridge. In the north, angels holding Aylesbury; impaling, Arg. on a fess g. or s., three annulets o., between three roses g., seeded o., or, as in Dugdale, three leopards' faces o.—Somerville.* The shields of the remaining angels are gone.

The stalls have foliage, except the two first. One has a fox sitting, holding an open book; an ape holding a bag in his left, pointing to it with his right, a bear looking at it; the other, a lion erect, supported by a horse and unicorn in the same posture.

At the entrance of the chancel lies a circular gray stone, 4 feet in diameter, which had a circular ledge of brass, and in the centre a scroll and two shields, all gone. Dugdale says, tradition makes this the monument of Walter Cooke, the founder of this collegiate church. West of this is a slab, robbed of the brass figures, of a man and two wives; under the right hand, a group and single figure; under the left, two groups; above, a shield. The brasses were on in Dugdale's time, and showed that it belonged to John Dabriggcourte, Esq., 1543, and his wives Catharine and Elizabeth.

The five panels of the south pew have a dragon carved in low relief.

Two pews under canopies, with wreathed pillars at entrance, their west faces formed by rich carved screens of wood, with a projecting canopy in front of very rich foliage.

The north transept of the chancel has in the north crowned ihs and M. Against the east wall tablets for Richard, 1746, 48; Anne, 1756, 53. Richard, 1765, 38, married Martha, daughter of the Rev. Marshall Greswold, Esq., of Malvern House. She died 1755, aged 26.

Slabs with Latin inscriptions for Mary, fifth daughter of Humfrey Greswold, Esq., of Yardley, wife of Richard Grimshaw, of Grimshaw, of Baker's Lane, Esq., 1669, aged 36.

Richard, husband of Mary, had three daughters—Elizabeth, Mary, Anne—and died 1690, aged 58.

"In this garment† is laide up the bodie of ELIZABETH, late wife of Thomas St. Nicholas, of Ashe, in the county of Kent, daughter of Henry Croke, of Wellplace, in the county of Oxford, esq., who lived as a helper with her husband six years, and had issue by him 4 sonnes, dec'd, ‡ Mal. iii. 17."

In a lozenge, Ermine, a chief counter componè quarterly, quartering a cross voided; impaling between six martlets a fess charged with crescent. Round it,

"O Death! where is thy sting," etc.,

and round the sides,

"My well-beloved is mine, and I am His."

* These are all that remain of seven coats engraven by Dugdale.

† Cabinet—Dugdale.

‡ March 9, 1631—Dugdale.

Under them,
 "The memorial of the just is blessed."

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

In an east chapel of this aisle is an altar-tomb, or altar, of scaly stone, the slabs 5 feet by 3 feet 4 inches thick; the altar $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 4 feet wide, of bricks plastered. In the west wall, at the corner, a door and ten steps, with a door opening into the nave, and once leading to the rood-loft.

At the east end of the south aisle a perk. In its south wall a piscina and locker. In another south window, A: a cross g. and the cross ingrailed with 5 o., neither of which coats are in Dugdale. By it a figure of Charity between two boys holding a scroll inscribed, "He that hath pity on the poor," etc., "ex dono Ant. Holbeche, ob. 1717"; and above, on a wooden shield, G., five escallops, a. quartering Barry of six a. and a. in chief, three annulets o.; impaling G., two chevronels erm. between three eagles displayed o., quartering az., two chevronels o. between three goats' heads a. "Sacrae sub tegmine fagi"; a miserable pun for Holy Beach.

In the north clerestory window are fragments of saints and kneeling figures.

On the beam over the rood-loft have been painted in white, on red-flowered ground, whole-lengths, of which remain an angel, the Virgin Mary, and another saint, and heads of two more on the north side of a centre building, and over them indistinct inscriptions in white letters.

The font is octagon, charged with quatrefoils in squares on an octagon shaft. The pulpit and desk neatly made of wainscot by Carter, the present clerk.

The west tower is embattled, the door but $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet to the water table, which is 2 feet wide. Under each chancel window, nearest the east end, is a surbust arch. On the buttress above, a headless fowl. Fine grotesque of feet and wings at the bottom of the south aisle finials.

[1808, *Part II.*, p. 769.]

The annexed (Plate I.) is a south view of the chapel at Knowle, or Knoll, co. Warwick, though on too diminutive a scale to do justice to that beautiful structure. . . .

Dabridgecourt's brass still remains in the chapel, though torn from its slab. Dugdale's transcript of this inscription ("History of Warwickshire," p. 961, edit. Thomas) is so very incorrect that I hope you will insert the following accurate copy:

"Of yo' charite praye for yo' sowlle of maister John dawbbes court, esquer, who decessed the xvj daye of July, An'o R. b. c° xliiij°, and for yo' sowles of Katrine and Elisabeth, his wydes, on whose sowles Jh'us have mercy. A. R. C. R."

WILLIAM HAMPER.

Leamington.

[1813, *Part I.*, pp. 407, 408.]

Leamington Spa has become the resort of fashion and elegance. The delightful retirement it affords, the variety and excellence of its accommodations, the fine rides in its environs, and the spirited exertions of its inhabitants to procure every luxury, as well as convenience, for their visitors, entitle it to the most particular attention of the public. In addition to Mr. Bisset's picture-gallery, that gentleman has now removed his much-admired museum from Birmingham. . . . The new pump-room is built upon an extensive and most superb plan, and has cost the proprietors £15,000. The assembly-room is spacious and elegant; £9,000 has been expended on its erection. The number, cheapness, and plentiful supply of the hot baths is not surpassed in any other parts of the kingdom.

HYGEIA.

Little Wolford.

[1846, *Part I.*, pp. 523, 524.]

Little Wolford Hall, the venerable seat of the ancient and now extinct family of Ingram, is—or rather was, for a great part of it has already disappeared—one of those interesting specimens of the lesser English manor-houses to be found only in country villages, far removed from large towns and populous places. A short account of this house will be found in the "*Collectanea Topographica*," vol. viii, p. 140; but since that notice was written (in April, 1840) the property has changed hands, having been purchased by Sir George Philips, Bart., in the year 1844. Considerable alterations have been since effected; part of the house has been pulled down, part converted into cottages, and part, more particularly the hall, judiciously restored.

In the course of these alterations and repairs a remarkable discovery was made last autumn in a room adjoining the kitchen, which is one of the oldest parts of the house. This room, formerly perhaps a pantry, had been originally paved; but on taking up the pavement for the purpose of flooring it, under the hearthstone a bricked grave was found. Within this grave appeared an oak coffin much decayed; and, on raising the lid, a dried body of an infant, "for all the world like an Egyptian mum," said my informant, a country girl of the place. The body was absolutely reduced to dust, the bones being scarcely perceptible. It was wrapped in a very rich silk brocade, or tapestry, which was also so decayed that it fell to pieces immediately the air was admitted. If these were the remains of some illegitimate child of the family, as might perhaps be suspected, the care and attention bestowed on its burial would lead to a contrary inference; the circumstances of the bricked grave, coffin, etc., show that con-

cealment could not have been easy. Yet who would choose, where secrecy was unnecessary, so unusual a grave?

Long Compton.

[1795, *Part I.*, p. 195.]

The village of Long Compton, in Warwickshire, stands at the foot of that bold range of hills from whose summit you descend out of the county of Oxford into that of Warwick. The church is a long embattled building, the nave resting on four pointed arches on hexagon columns, and clerestory windows on each side.

In the chancel, on lozenges:

"D. O. M.—WILLIAM SHELDON, of Winchester, 1746, aged 24.

"P. P.—WILLIAM, son of William and Margaret, 1744, 6 months.

"BARBARA, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth, aged one month.

"ELIZABETH, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth, died at Weston, 1712, 7 months.

"JOAN MANNERS."

In the south wall is a double piscina under an arch, Plate II., Fig. 7; opposite to it a square locker with a shelf, Fig. 8:

"Here lieth the remains of the Rev. Dr. JOHN BROWNE, prebendary of Peterborough, archdeacon of Northampton, and master of University college, in Oxford. He was born of a very respectable family in the county of York, and died, after having been 50 years vicar of this parish, on August 7, 1764, aged 78. He took a great pleasure in discharging the duties of every office he was engaged in, and left tokens of his beneficence in every place."

Arms: Az. a chevron between three fleurs-de-lis o.

On the south side of the chancel is a chapel; and a room over it, unglazed, has a north window stopped.

In the north window of the chancel is a saint, his right hand on a book, his left pointing down. S^{ipatm}.

Dugdale gives this inscription in this window:

"Robert Polr, bicar,"

who is omitted in the list, though his resignation is noted 1571.

In the north window of the north aisle: G. a fess o between six cross crosslets o.

The font is hexagon.

In the north wall, by the tower, is Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. In Dugdale's time there were six other coats in different windows; two of them gone in Thomas's time.

The arch between the nave and chancel is pointed.

The tower is at the west end, and embattled.

R. G.

Stratford-upon-Avon.

[1760, p. 308.]

The chief curiosity of Stratford-upon-Avon is that it was the birth-place of Shakespeare; here also he was buried, in the year 1616.

His monument is very near the furthestmost corner of the church, so near that you cannot pass by it more than a yard at most, yet the inscription on it begins thus :

"Stop, passenger, why go you by so fast ?
Read, if thou canst, whom envious death hath plac'd
Beneath this tomb—SHAKESPEAR."

How it goes on I don't recollect ; but death, however, in taking Shakespeare from the world so early, is, I think, far outdone by a man now living in or near this town ; for there was till lately the house in which Shakespeare lived, and a mulberry-tree of his planting ; the house large, strong and handsome ; the tree so large that it would shade the grass-plot in your garden, which I think is more than 20 yards square, and supply the whole town with mulberries every year. As the curiosity of this house and tree brought much fame and more company and profit to the town, this man, on some disgust, has pulled the house down, so as not to leave one stone upon another, and cut down the tree, and piled it as a stack of fire-wood, to the great vexation, loss and disappointment of the inhabitants. However, an honest silversmith bought the whole stack of wood, and now makes many odd things of this wood for the curious, some of which I hope to bring with me to town.

[1791, *Part II.*, pp. 601-603.]

An old wainscot chair, or, more properly, I might have said, the remaining part, which tradition had handed down as having been the property of the immortal Shakespeare, and which stood in the very house in which he was born, was sold on November 28, 1790, by Thomas Hart,* the present occupier of the house, to Major Orlowski (secretary to Her Serene Highness Isabella Princess Czartoriska), who, accompanied by an interpreter, a native of Poland, came to Stratford purposely to purchase it.

Hart was happy in receiving for the relic twenty guineas, with an entertainment given at his inn to his family (though I am assured, had he asked, he might have received a much larger sum for it) ; and the man who made the case to pack it in also received a guinea for his trouble.

When I first visited Stratford, now some time since, I was shown (as I understood all strangers were whose curiosity led them to call at the house) this chair, had the honour of sitting in it ; and the people of the house cut from one of the feet, and presented to me, a small chip, which I must own I was not virtuoso enough carefully to preserve, as there appeared to me a degree of improbability in supposing this chair should have continued there for near two centuries, though fixed in the wall, and bearing evident marks of

* Thomas Hart is fifth in descent from Joan Hart, Shakespeare's sister.—Malone.

antiquity; or that it was ever the one, as some have supposed, in which our great poet first reposed.

But to return to my information. In February last the interpreter again visited Stratford, said a doubt had arisen respecting the authenticity of the relic, that it was purchased for the said Princess, and that her Highness requested a certificate, setting forth that it was the same chair she had seen and sat in in the summer of 1790; which certificate was granted, signed by Thomas Hart, John Warilow, Austin Warilow, and John Jordan.*

Respecting the celebrated mulberry-tree planted by Shakespeare, the relation of the following anecdote led me to make some inquiries: "A gentleman, passing through Stratford, called at the house of a Mr. Sharp, a cutler, who, it is well known, procured some of the mulberry-wood after the tree was cut down by Mr. Gastrell, and who, without doubt, has received, and continues to receive, considerable emolument from vending a variety of articles, such as toys, etc., said to be made of that wood. Taking up a tobacco-stopper from amongst other articles which he had intended to purchase, and on which was indented, as is on all the toys, etc., 'Shakespeare's wood,' he thus interrogated the person attending: 'Will you swear, sir, that this tobacco-stopper was ever a part of the original mulberry-tree planted by Shakespeare?' 'No, sir,' replied the young man, 'I will not swear it; but my father will.' This young man was Sharp's son!" But, notwithstanding this anecdote was related to me as a stubborn fact, I have weighty reasons to believe I should misinform you were I to say Sharp has not, at this time, in his shop, a quantity of the wood in toys, etc., as well as unconverted; for of this tree (which, it is supposed, was planted by Shakespeare about the year 1609, and was cut down by Mr. Gastrell in 1757, being then grown to an enormous size, and part of the body decayed) there were many large boughs preserved which were perfectly sound, some of which were sent to the shop of George Willes, a joiner, who is now living at Stratford, to be converted by him, at Mr. Gastrell's request, into an easy-chair; but these branches having remained with Willes unconverted until after Mr. Gastrell's death, they were then purchased by Sharp. The body of the tree was cut up, stacked amongst others as firewood, and as such sold to different persons; but Sharp, I am informed, had the greatest part of it, which is supposed to have been about 20 cwt.

* John Jordan, whose signature is annexed to this certificate, is a man well informed, though in a humble station of life (a journeyman wheelwright), is the author of a poem called "Wellcombe Hills," etc., was employed by, and collected for, Mr. Malone many valuable materials for his "Shakespeare," for which contributions, much to the honour of that gentleman, he has been liberally rewarded, and Mr. Malone still continues his assistance to Jordan's family at this time, by Dr. Davenport, Vicar of Stratford, paying for the education of his children, and promising his future support. I acknowledge myself indebted to Mr. Jordan for part of my information.

The late Thomas Mortiboys, Esq., had several pieces, out of which was carved that elegant box presented by the Corporation of Stratford to David Garrick, Esq., in 1769. After the decease of Mr. Mortiboys, amongst his effects, which were sold, Sharp again became the purchaser of all that remained of this celebrated wood, giving for it one shilling per pound.

The first idea of Sharp's manufactory was suggested by George Cooper, a joiner, having bought part of the wood, which, converted into goods, he found a ready sale for. Sharp afterwards employed this man, and was shown at Sharp's shop tea-caddies, goblets, etc., manufactured of this wood.

T. T. S.

[1792, *Part II.*, p. 1077.]

Enclosed is a view of Stratford-upon-Avon, copied by Mr. Stringer from a drawing which I took above forty years ago (see Plate II.). . . . It shows the south-east prospect of the church in which are enshrined the bones of our immortal bard; the tower of a chapel, built of fine squared stone, in a principal part of the tower, by Sir Hugh Clapton, who also built the stone bridge over the river Avon, both in the reign of King Henry VII.; the former he dedicated to the Holy Trinity. It shows likewise the footbridge of timber; the corn and oil-mills; the top of the old town hall (now elegantly rebuilt), at one end of which is placed a fine statue of Shakespeare, as large as life; the same that was used at the celebration of the Jubilee by Mr. Garrick, in the year 1769, at which were present an innumerable company of nobility and gentry from all parts of the kingdom.

I must not forget to mention many alterations and improvements that have been made since my first drawing was taken, particularly in taking down from the tower on the church the old, mean, leaden spire, which has been replaced with one several feet higher, of fine white stone; repairing the battlements, bell-windows, pinnacles, etc.

RICHARD GREENE.

[1801, *Part II.*, p. 616.]

Having seen an article, questioning the circumstance of the house in which Shakespeare was born at Stratford being the residence of a butcher at present, to remove all doubt on the subject, I can assure the writer that the fact is strictly so; and, moreover, the butcher who occupies it is a descendant of the bard. His name is Hart, and the degree of relationship in which he stands is, I believe, great-grandson to the poet's daughter Susanna. Being at Stratford six months ago, I was curious in visiting the house, and making inquiries concerning the family, and thought the inhabitants of the place seem to know or busy themselves less about the matter than strangers are apt to do; yet, from every intelligence I could procure, there is not a doubt but that the butcher is lineally descended from our immortal bard. I am.

sorry to add that, from the information I could procure, he is in indigent circumstances, which occasioned his being out of the way when I was there before, three years ago. For the information of those who have never visited the house, I shall just add that it is a shabby, mean, lath-and-plaster building, in the style that usually prevails in that part of the country, viz., the timbers in front painted black, etc.; but I am apt to believe the house occupied by the butcher is only part of the original dwelling-house, which formerly comprehended the adjacent building, which seems to have been separated for the convenience of making smaller tenements for the habitation of different families. I suppose the proprietor could satisfy the public as to the alterations that may have taken place for some time back. As to the furniture, there remains an old arm-chair, in which, they tell you, he used to smoke his pipe, as also the identical tobacco-stopper which he used on this occasion; it is evidently of the make of Shakespeare's age, but I doubt much the identity either of this article or the chair, which latter, I have been informed, has been sold and replaced at least twenty different times. Yet still are there not wanting curiosi weak enough to give from five shillings to a guinea for a chip of the old block no bigger than may be contained in a snuff-box. Mrs. Hart shows a genealogy to prove her husband's descent.

J. COLLET.

[1807, *Part I.*, p. 3.]

Thinking a representation of the house at Stratford-upon-Avon, co. Warwick, in which the immortal Shakespeare first drew breath might be acceptable to his admirers, I have enclosed a drawing taken in July last.

The house is situated in Henley Street, near the White Lion Inn, and is now divided into two dwellings, one of which is occupied by a descendant of Joan Hart, sister to the poet, who pursues the humble occupation of a butcher. The adjoining dwelling has been many years used as a public-house, known by the sign of the Swan and Maidenhead. It appears that our great dramatic poet was born on April 23, 1564, in the chamber marked S. in the view. . . .

In the chimney-corner of the kitchen is an old chair, said to have belonged to the poet, but so mangled by the knives of virtuosos that little of the original form remains.

D. PARKES.

[1808, *Part I.*, p. 289.]

I send you a north-west view of the old college at Stratford-upon-Avon, which Dugdale describes as "a house of square stone, for the habitation of five priests, adjoining to the churchyard; built by Ralph de Stratford, first a Canon of St. Paul's, and afterwards Bishop of London, whose good affections to this town, being his birthplace, stirred him up to that pious work, of which he began the structure

26 Edward III. (1353), with ten carpenters, ten masons, and their servants"; and to which foundation were afterwards added, by Dr. Ralph Collingwode, Dean of Lichfield, "four children choristers, to be daily assistant in the celebration of divine service in that Church, who should always come by two and two together into the Quire to Matins and Vespers on such days as the same were to be sung there, according to the *Ordinale Sarum*; and at their entrance into the Church, bowing their knees before the Crucifix, each of them say a *Pater-noster* and an *Ave*. And for their better regulation did he order and appoint, that they should sit quietly in the Quire, saying the Mattens and Vespers of our Lady distinctly, and afterwards be observant to the offices of the Quire; that they should not be sent upon any occasion whatsoever into the Town; that at dinner and supper times they should constantly be in the College to wait at the table: and to read upon the Bible, or some other authentique book; that they should not come into the Buttry to draw beer for themselves or any body else: that after dinner they should go to the Singing-school; and that their Schoolmaster should be one of the Priests or Clerks appointed by the discretion of the Warden, being a man able to instruct them in singing to the Organ: as also that they should have one Bedchamber in the Church, whereunto they were to repair in Winter-time at eight of the clock, and in Summer at nine, in which lodging to be two beds, wherein they were to sleep by couples, and that before they did put off their clothes they should all say the prayer of *De profundis* with a loud voice, with the prayers and orisons of the faithfull; and afterwards say thus, 'God have mercy of the soule of Rauf Colyngwode our Founder, and Master Thomas Balshall, a speciall Benefactor to the same.'"

As a companion to the other drawing, I send also a view of the Brook House, in which it is generally admitted that Shakespeare was really born.

P. Q.

[1808, *Part II.*, pp. 668, 669.]

Observing in your Magazine a view of Brook House, in which it is supposed our immortal bard was born, and unaccompanied by any account whatever of the house itself, should you consider the following desultory observations and memoranda not altogether devoid of interest, they may not probably be unworthy of insertion in your next number. Upon referring to Shakespeare's will, contained in most editions of his dramatic works, we find that he possessed a house, etc., in Stratford-upon-Avon, held of the manor of Rowington, in this county, but are uninformed concerning its particular situation. Whether this copyhold, which might have been subsequently enfranchised, was the identical house John Shakespeare, our poet's father, possessed and resided in when this, his eldest son, William, was born, and which might afterwards descend to him, I

have no information sufficiently authenticated to justify its communication. Certain it is that in 1640 this Brook House, so denominated from its contiguity to the Avon—or, rather, the ground whereon it stood—constituted part of the possessions of Charles, Lord Carington, Baron of Wooton Wawen,* in this neighbourhood, at which period “it consisted only of a barn and backside, and a pleck of ground, or garden pleck.” On September 1, 1640, this barn, etc., was purchased in fee of Charles, Lord Carington; Dame Elizabeth, his wife; Francis Carington, alias Smith, his son and heir-apparent; and of Valentine Smith, by a Mr. Richard Hunt, and afterwards descended to his great-grandson and heir, Joseph Hunt, gent., of Shipston-upon-Stour, in Worcestershire, being sold by him to James Holyoake, gent., of Worcester, about the year 1750. Mr. Holyoake soon after conveyed the property to Mrs. Dianah Careless, his then tenant, by whom it was resold to William Hunt, Esq., of Stratford, who demolished the house and added its site to his garden, and whose son, Thomas Hunt, Esq., is its present proprietor. . . . We have never been satisfactorily informed in what part of Stratford the copyhold house mentioned in Shakespeare’s will was situated. The manor of Rowington, a village twelve miles from Stratford, continued in the Crown, with some few intermissions, nearly from the Dissolution, till it was granted to William Smith, Esq., February 28, 1806, who enfranchised the only copyhold land in Stratford belonging to Thomas Mason, Esq., and on which the wing of his present residence in Church Street is erected. A small tenement formerly stood thereupon, and as I cannot, after considerable researches, immediately discover that any other customary estate here was ever held under the manor of Rowington, it is therefore no improbable conjecture that this was Shakespeare’s copyhold property.

R. B. W.

[1835, *Part I.*, pp. 375-380.]

EXTRACTS TRANSLATED FROM THE LEDGER OF THE GILDE OF HOLY CROSS, ETC., ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF THE GILDE, AND OF THAT OF THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY.

(Fo. i.) A.D. 1406, 8 Henry IV. Thomas Schepard, Chaplain, is received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and makes a fine for continuing Chaplain of the said Gilde during the whole of his life, of £6 13s. 4d.

Robert Trowte, received at the same time to be Chaplain for life, on the same terms.

(Fo. v.) A.D. 1411, 13 Henry IV. John Elmeley, Chaplain, is

* This title became extinct in 1700, upon the decease of Francis, Lord Carington, Baron of Wooton in Warwickshire, and Viscount Berrefore in the kingdom of Ireland.

received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and makes a fine of 20s. of which he pays on his ingress 6s. 8d. and was to pay at the next communion in next following year 6s. 8d., and at the communion next following 6s. 8d.; and the Master and Aldermen, by Robert Trout and Thomas Plenteth, Chaplains, concede to the said John Elmeley that he shall have the next sacerdotal service that shall happen; or if he prefer it, another presbyter, and that he shall pay to the Master of the Gilde 20s. more.

(Fo. ix.) A.D. 1414, 2 Henry V. William Boveton, Chaplain of the parish of Stratford, is received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and makes a fine of 20s. to be paid on the feast of the nativity of St. John Baptist, next following after the above date, for which Robert Trout, Chaplain, is security; and it is granted by the said Robert Trout, on the part of the Master and Aldermen of the said Gilde, and by them conceded to the said William Boveton, that he shall have the next sacerdotal service after John Elmeley shall have been served, according to the agreement with him, provided that Boveton will give as much as any other person, or, in the event of his not consenting, the Master and Aldermen grant him the alternative of relieving him from his fine.

(Fo. xiii.) A.D. 1417, 5 Henry V. John Wheler, Chaplain, is admitted and makes a fine of 20 marks: of which 10 marks are paid and put into the Treasury Chest; 6 are to be paid on the feast of the invention of holy cross next ensuing; and 4 are spent on the chimney in Wheler's chamber.

(Fo. xxvi.) A.D. 1426, 5 Henry VI. John Palmer, Chaplain, gave the Gilde for the souls of his friends and benefactors £10.

(Fo. xxvii.) A.D. 1426, 5 Henry VI. Nicholas Leeke, Chaplain, is received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and admitted to remain one of the priests, paying for himself and progenitors £14. Securities, Hugh Salford, Richard Holle, and Julian Leeke. And the said Julian gives after her decease her greatest brass pot and greatest paten.

(Fo. xl.) A.D. 1433, 12 Henry VI. Nicholas Leeke, Chaplain, to be Chaplain to the Gilde during his life; gives on coming in 7 marks and a cup of silver, price £3, and also a house, with appurtenances, in Old Stratford, in which Richard Careless lives, to have and to hold to the Gilde after the death of Agnes Huyron, daughter of John Huyron, of Preston upon Stowre.

(Fo. xlviii.) A.D. 1439, 18 Henry VI. Henry Payne, Chaplain, is admitted into the fraternity of the Gilde, and makes a fine of 13s. 4d. and 20d. to the light, and to have the next succession to a Chaplainship.

(Fo. lxxiii.) A.D. 1453, 32 Henry VI. John Bosbury, alias Forley, is admitted Chaplain of the Gilde, and makes a fine of £4 13s. 4d.

(Fo. lxxv.) A.D. 1455, 34 Henry VI. John Buggy, Chaplain of
VOL. XXV. 6

Rotley, is admitted and makes a fine of £8 and to call himself a Chaplain of the said Gilde.

(Fo. lxxxi.) A.D. 1459, 38 Henry VI. Robert Alsycher, of Honyburne, Chaplain, is admitted and makes a fine of 13s. 4d., and for being Chaplain to the Gilde £8.

The fine of Master William Cooke, of Cissetur, for being one of the Chaplains of the Gilde, and for the souls of his father and mother, is £6 13s. 4d.

(Fo. lxxxiii.) A.D. 1466, 5 Edward IV. John Pyfe is admitted Chaplain to the Gilde on payment of 10 marks.

(Fo. cxxii.) A.D. 1488, 3 Henry VII. Sir Thomas Marryman admitted Chaplain to the Gilde, fine £7.

(Fo. cxxix.) A.D. 1492, 7 Henry VII. Sir Henry Barns admitted Chaplain of the Gilde and Master of the Gilde, fine 6s. 8d.

The following further memoranda of entries in the ledger of this ancient fraternity illustrate the policy of the Guild in commuting pecuniary fines for other valuable considerations, or establish other historical facts of general interest.

(Fo. i.) A.D. 1406. John Mortemere and his wife, of Milcote, admitted.

(Fo. iii.) A.D. 1408. Richard Cowper, Rector of the Church at Little Wilmcote, admitted. [The advowson of that church was given to the Gilde by Henry Lisle, Esq., temp. Edward IV. Dugdale's "Warwickshire."]

Simon Gove, Carpenter, admitted on his undertaking to build a porch at the door of the Gilde; and one *couple* at the west end of the Kitchen.

(Fo. iii.) A.D. 1409. John Iremonger admitted on covenanting to build a house on the Gilde ground at the end of Henley-street, and the Gilde remit his fine of one *cople* at his election, and the fines of Richard his servant and Jone his wife.

(Fo. vi.) A.D. 1412. Henry Brouman admitted on agreeing to a fine of 20s.; of which 6s. 8d. is forgiven him on condition that he shall take charge of all the goods and chattels of the Gilde which are in the church; to wit, of the altars of the Holy Cross, the blessed Mary, and St. John Baptist, during his life, or as long as he shall be capable of working; and all the aforesaid goods and chattels to be made over to the aforesaid Henry by indenture between him and the Master and Aldermen, Richard Fretter being security.

(Fo. ix.) A.D. 1814. Richard Gylberd, jun. of Lodyngton, and for any woman he may introduce as his wife, makes a fine of 20d.

(Fo. x.) John Ovyrtton, Cook, of Warwyck, and his wife, are received into the fraternity of the Gilde; and for his fine he is to be the Gilde's Cook at their annual communion during his life. Nothing

to be taken of the said Gilde but his annual hood and expences when he comes for the accommodation of the said Gilde.

(Fo. x.) A.D. 1415. Thomas Barbour and Katherine his wife, are received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and make a fine of 20s. to be paid within one year next after the above date. But if the said Thomas shall entirely new make the lights before the altar of the cross and image of the blessed Mary in the chapel of the blessed Mary in the church of Stratford within the year, he is to have remission, otherwise he is to give satisfaction.

He new-made the light, and afterwards every person admitted to the fraternity made a separate payment towards the maintenance of that light, unless in cases where it was remitted.

John Kyrton, mason, of Wynhecombe, and Johanna his wife, are received into the fraternity of the Gilde and make a fine of 40s. to be paid within the year next ensuing; but this fine, and the pence for the light, is remitted by the Master and Aldermen in reward for his work in the chapel of the blessed Mary in the Church of Stratford.

(Fo. xii.) A.D. 1416. Also pray for the souls of Henry Aleyn, John Aleyn, Dionis Aleyn, Sir Robert Setemay. John Porter gave a great pot for frumetty, a broad dish of mascolyn, one basin, one boardcloth, and one towale for a fine.

John Prynce, Cook, of Warwyck, master Cook in the mansion of the Lord Richard Count of Warwyck, and Johanna his wife, are received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and for his fine nothing is given on condition that he shall be always assiduous at the annual Communions of the Gilde, to give council and assistance, if so previously required, annually during his life. And when he shall come and labour at the Communion he shall have his hood for his labour, and if he does not work to have no hood.

(Fo. xiii.) A.D. 1417. John Gibbus, of Willicote, and Margery his wife, and the soul of John Hale admitted in the Gilde, and made a fine of 43s. 4d.; and in consideration of one little brass mortar and pestell, and the prompt payment of the 43s. 4d. the fine for the light is remitted.

The Master and Aldermen ordained that the common feast of the Gilde should be held annually on the Sunday next after the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul the Apostles. The Master and Procurators were to render their accounts to the Gilde annually on the Monday next after the feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, under a penalty of 40s. for the Master, and 10s. for each of the Procurators; also to meet for debate in the Gilde Hall four times a year, and four times a year to inspect the estates of the Gilde, both in Stratford and elsewhere.

John Leeke, for his fine, gives to the Gilde half a burgage, formerly belonging to Geraud, and by a close and garden of his, and building thereon a house, like the houses of the poor (almshouses), for which R. Aleyn and Agnes his wife, parents of Leeke, and Roger Spencer and Agnes his wife, parents of Julian Leeke's wife, are also received; with the same suffrages as other brethren have or are accustomed to have.

(Fo. xiii.) A.D. 1419. John Smyth, alias Colyere, first made a clocke in the Drapers' Chamber (then so called), having the hand towards the streete and figures all gilded.

Johanna Jakemon makes a fine of 10s. of which she pays 6s. 8d. at coming in, and the remainder to go in relief of the new building.

(Fo. xv.) John Cowper, of Tewe, and Constantia his wife, are received into the Gilde, and make a fine to the Master and Aldermen in the following form:—that the said John shall perform and do all the Covenants for the rebuilding of the tenements, formerly John Brasyer's, within two years next ensuing from this time, or pay his fine of 40s. and 20d. to the light.

John Kymot and Isabel his wife, are admitted on his releasing to the Gilde his right of succession to a place, formerly R. Kymot's, in Church-street, and for giving a silver spoon which weighed 20 pence sterling.

(Fo. xvii.) A.D. 1421. William Botulfe and Alice his wife admitted on giving one vestment, and the making of another vestment, and the front of an altar; all made and given for ever to the Gilde; and so he is received.

For the souls of Robert and wife, and Thomas Chastelyn and Johanna his wife, 20s. was given, with 1 silver chalice, or *Geton*, and 1 cote armour, freely to the use of the Gilde.

(Fo. xx.) A.D. 1423. Isold Saloway and the soul of John, her late husband, admitted on her making a fine of 26s. 8d. The obit of John to be on the feast of Saint Egvyn the Confessor. Margery, the daughter of John and Isold, is also admitted into the sisterhood of the Gilde on her making a fine of 6s. 8d.

(Fo. xxi.) A.D. 1424. John Campyon is received into the fraternity of the Gilde by the Master and Aldermen and the whole of the Council on this condition, that he shall appear for them in all negotiations of the Gilde, and in certain causes of the confraternity of the said Gilde.

John Botiller, sub-rector of the Collegiate Church of Stratford, admitted; by which it is evident that there was then a College at Stratford. His fine is 13s. 4d. and 10d. for the light.

(Fo. xxiii.) A.D. 1426. Thomas and Alice Elmys, of Berston, admitted; and, they being weak and infirm, it is agreed that they occupy one of the Almshouses as long as they live, and that all their goods remain to the Gilde after their decease.

William and Margaret Storige admitted on paying a fine of 4 caruc' of plaster-of-paris, and the carriage thereof; and he to work 6 days at his own expense when required by the Master.

(Fo. xxiv.) John Balsale and Felice his wife admitted, making a fine of one pair of vestments of Alesander cloth, and 20d. to the light.

For the soul of Elizabeth Lady of Harsam, a fine of one pair of vestments, which remain in the hands of Sir Thomas Tommys, Rector of Whicheford.

Henry and Elizabeth Aldebury, of Bynton, and the souls of their parents, and the souls of Simon and Isabelle, and the soul of Christian his wife;—fine 20 rams; price of the whole 30s.

John and Margaret Usk, of Warwick, admitted on agreeing to deliver 8 couple of rabbits, annually, at the Communion of the Gilde; the first year to have his hood, afterwards to pay for it.

Richard Dudley, tenant of Henry Aldebury, of Bynton, admitted; and the souls of Walter Dudley, and the ancestors and parents of the same; on giving, as a fine, two ewes with lamb, price 14s., 13s. 4d. more, and 2s. 6d. to the light.

(Fo. xxv.) Philip and Johanna Scharpe, of Henley, admitted; and to give, as a fine, one boar annually, during their lives, and to receive hoods of the Gilde.

John and Alice Hout, parker of Fulbroke, admitted, and to give as a fine 1 beast, annually, at the Communion of the Gilde during their lives, and for Alice 6s. 8d.

(Fo. xxvi.) A.D. 1427. William Bulkyer, hosier, admitted; giving, as a fine, 10s. and 1 silver spoon.

Richard and Alice Phillips, butcher, of Stratford, admitted; and give for themselves and the souls of their parents, 33s. 4d. and 5lb. of wax for the light.

(Fo. xxvii.) William Goddys, weaver, of Salisbury, and Alice his wife, admitted; and, for a fine, agreed to be the providers of cloth for outer coverings (hoods); and William made a banner, pictured with an image or images, and so he is free at the next Communion.

John Ravon, carpenter, and Alice his wife, admitted; and, for a fine, to make two houses by the kitchen, in the garden, the whole length of the path, by the next feast of the Passion, and to have, in further remuneration, 2 hoods.

Leonard and Johanna Putte, of Ippersley, admitted; fine 20s., and 20d. to the light, and one thousand of laths.

(Fo. xxviii.) John Hardyng, of Merston Sicca, and the souls of Robert and Jone his parents, admitted; fine 13s. 4d. and 2 quarters of corn.

The souls of John and Aubry Cowper, parents of Thomas Iremonger, and the soul of Richard Fraunces, of Preston Bagot, admitted; fine 14s. and 2lb. of wax.

(Fo. xxix.) A.D. 1428. Thomas and Elizabeth Astwode, of Astwode Muserd, for themselves and parents, 4os. and 2 lb. of wax.

(Fo. xxx.) John and Matilda Robyns, of Lamcote; fine 13s. 4d. and 4 bushells of corn.

John and Margaret Radley, alias Stokys, of Warwyck; fine 4000 tiles.

Robert Goderd, alias Mason, and Margaret, his wife; fine 6s. 8d. and one trough of stone.

(Fo. xxxi.) John Brasyer, son of William Brasyer and Alice his wife, of Stratford; fine 1 lb. of Saffron, 1 lb. pepper, and 3s. 4d. in money.

Margaret Lane, of Bischopiston, and the soul of William Lane; fine 6s. 8d. and 1 lb. of corn, and 1 lb. of wax.

(Fo. xxxiii.) A.D. 1429. William and Cecilia Staton, of Whatcote, and the souls of Ralph and Felicia Staton; fine 20s. and $\frac{1}{2}$ quarter of corn, and after his decease 6s. 8d. more.

William Rogger, alias Hopper, and Agnes his wife; fine 26s. 8d. and to bring a handkerchief, yearly, at the Communion, until the 26s. 8d. is paid.

(Fo. xxxiv.) Eminencia Chebuere, of Petworth, and the soul of Rose her parent; fine 1 lead containing 7 bushels troy weight, 1 brass pot, price 13s. 4d. and 1 basin with washing place or lavatory.

William Tommis, of Petworth, an unmarried man; fine 20s. 10d. and for his wife, if he takes one, 6s. 10d. more.

(Fo. xxxv.) A.D. 1430. Henry and Margaret Lyttelton, of Handy; fine 20 quarters of lime.

Lady Johanna Clopton; fine one canopy.

Robert and Johanna Page, of Wolford; fine 13s. 4d. and 4 bushels of corn, and 4 bushels of malt.

(Fo. xxxviii.) A.D. 1431. Hugh Clonne, Master of the school of Stratford; fine 10s.

(Fo. xl.) A.D. 1431. Thomas At-Wode de la Wyche, and the soul of his mother; fine three quarters of salt.

(Fo. xlii.) A.D. 1436. Thomas Trevet, of Gloucester, *pardoner*, and Isold, his wife, admitted; fine 20s. and 20d. to the light.

William and Alice Purdon, of Clyfford, 13s. 4d. and 10d. to the light, and 4 bushels of corn.

(Fo. xlii.) A.D. 1437. John and Margaret Hudde, of Wyklysford, and the soul of John Smyth, of the same; fine 1 pair of vestments and one chalice in the chapel, in the hands of John Palmer, Chaplain.

(Fo. xlv.) A.D. 1438. Thomas and Alice Trewman of Tedington; fine 10s. and a woollen cloth.

(Fo. xlvi.) A.D. 1439. Margaret Bartillot, of Wilneford, and the soul of Richard Bartillot, her husband; fine 4s. and four silver spoons, given to Mr. John Webbe.

(Fo. xlviii.) A.D. 1440. Richard and Alice Westynton, of Stratford ; fine 6s. 8d. and 20d. to the light, and an alabaster image.

John and Margaret Colyer, of the Forest of Fakynham ; fine 6s. 8d. and 1 beast at the next Communion, and one every year after for four years.

(Fo. xlix.) John Wydbury, Rector of the Church of Stretton ; fine 6 quarters of barley, price 16s.

(Fo. l.) A.D. 1441. Thomas Leeke, Master of the Gilde, ordered to rebuild the Gilde's house, in High-street, within one year, to which he consented.

(Fo. li.) John and Margery Bultys of Tutebarowe ; fine one pair of vestments for the use of the Chapel.

Richard and Katharine Dowle of Ippersley ; fine 2000 laths, price 10s.

(Fo. lvii.) A.D. 1443. William Pyers, son of Robert Pyers, of Thornbury, and Emmot, and the souls of Robert and Johanna Pyers ; fine a hogshead of red wine.

(Fo. lix.) John Rawlin, eremit of the Chapel of the Blessed Mary Magdalen, at the end of Stratford bridge.

This entry proves that there was a bridge, and a chapel at the end of it forty-eight years before the present bridge was erected.

Symon and Agnes Hykks of Aston ; fine one hogshead of white wine.

(Fo. lxxv.) A.D. 1446. Johanna Clopton, formerly servant of John Hannys ; fine 3s. 4d. and one brass pot price 3s. 4d.

Christiana Coton, otherwise called Christiana the Hermit, of Stratford ; fine 6s. 8d. and 10d. to the light.

(Fo. lxxvii.) A.D. 1448. William and Christiana Lyllynge of Bristol, merchant, and the soul of Jone his mother ; fine one hogshead of red wine, and 1 cwt. rosin, price together 24s.

George and Agnes Roche of Bristol, merchant ; fine one hogshead of wine, price 20s.

(Fo. lxxix.) A.D. 1449. John and Agnes Swyfte, jun., of Grafton ; fine ten copul of ewes and lambes.

John and Matilda Baker, alias Botiller, of Stratford, 16s. and he to have a hood given him *primâ facie*.

(Fo. lxxx.) A.D. 1450. Richard Aubrey of Coventry, glazier, and Agnes, his wife, are received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and their fines remitted by the Council of the Gilde.

John Goode, of Coventry, glazier, and Margaret his wife, are received into the fraternity of the Gilde, and their fines remitted by the Council of the Gilde.

No reason is assigned for the remission of the fines of these glaziers ; but those antiquaries who have read Dugdale's account of

the painted glass formerly in the chapel window will be at no loss to surmise a reason for the introduction of such useful characters into the fraternity.

(Fo. lxxi.) A.D. 1451. John Aldewynkel of Peterborough, Mercer ; fine a cloth of red palle.

(Fo. lxxiii.) A.D. 1453. Robert Wyncote, Scolemayster, of Stratford ; fine 6s. 8d. and 10d. for the light.

(Fo. lxxiv.) A.D. 1454. Henry Newport, alias Brewis, of Darentre, Fishmonger, and Joanna his wife admitted. He gave as a fine a lavatre with 4 cocks, for the use of the Chaplains and others to wash at.

(Fo. lxxv.) A.D. 1455. The souls of Richard and Alice Cook of Intebarowe, to be prayed for for the space of 30 years ; fine 6s. 8d.

(Fo. lxxx.) A.D. 1458. John and Joanna Stanley, of Bristol, Merchant ; fine six silver spoons, one gilt.

John Hannys, Master, gave and paid to the Gilde for the fine for the souls of Richard and Agnes Hannys, of Hulcote, his parents, 2 silver spoons.

(Fo. lxxxiii.) A.D. 1463. William Willys, of Bloxham, Chaplain, admitted ; and for his fine gives £4 and a missal, price £5.

(Fo. lxxxiv.) A.D. 1464. Thomas and Agnes Grene, of Stratford, broker ; fine 13s. 4d. and 20d. for the light ; of which the said Thomas to have the said sum in regard to the reparation of his house in which he lives, called *Paynes Place*.

(Fo. xcii.) A.D. 1470. Thomas Throgmorton, gent., Seneschal of Stratford, and Margaret his wife admitted ; fine 15s.

Robert Wonley of Coventre, Merchant of the staple of Calais, and Matilda his wife ; fine 15s.

Robert Tate and John Tate his brother, of London, Merchant of the staple of Calais ; fine 20s.

Hugh Clopton of London, Merchant ; fine 10s.

Thomas fabyan of London, Merchant, and Margaret his wife, fine 15s.

(Fo. xcvi.) A.D. 1472. John Whythede, hermit of the chapel of the blessed Mary Magdalene of Stratford ; fine 6s. 8d.

(Fo. xcix.) A.D. 1473. Thomas Caunter, monitor of the school, and Alice his wife ; fine 13s. 4d.

(Fo. civ.) A.D. 1474. The soul of Thomas Decon of Stamford, pewterer ; fine 7 pewter dishes, and 10 pewter saucers.

(Fo. cvii.) A.D. 1477. Richard Fox, Grammar Master and Bachelor of Arts, now of Stratford ; fine 6s. 8d.

(Fo. cix.) A.D. 1478. John Hues of Stratford, and the soul of Elizabeth his wife, and their parents ; fine, a shop in the middle rowe, to remain to the Gilde after his death.

(Fo. cxi.) A.D. 1479. Sir Thomas Lytelton, Justice of the King's Bench, admitted ; fine 6s. 8d.

(Fo. cxiii.) A.D. 1480. Thomas Payne, Cooke, fine 6s. 8d. It is concluded by the Master and Aldermen that Thomas Payne shall be Master Cooke at the Communion every year, as long as he is able to work.

(Fo. cxvii.) A.D. 1483. Sir William Smith, Bachelor of Arts and grammar master *pro tempore*; fine 6s. 8d.

(Fo. cxxiii.) A.D. 1490. Sir Richard Whateley, Master of Arts, and the souls of Phillip and Elizabeth his parents, and of Elizabeth, Jone, Alice, and William, his sisters and brother; fine 1 pair of black velvet vestments.

(Fo. cxxvij.) A.D. 1491. The soul of William Pynke, formerly husband to Margaret Pynke, of Wallesley; fine a pan containing 21 gallons.

(Fo. cxxviii.) A.D. 1492. Margery More of Ryon Clifford, and the soul of John More, her former husband, and Isabell their daughter; fine a black cow.

(Fo. cxxix.) Sir Henry Barnes, Chaplain of the Gilde and Master of the school; fine 6s. 8d.

(Fo. cxlj.) A.D. 1497. John Buttelen, hermite of the chapel of the blessed Mary Magdalen of Stratford; fine 6s. 8d. and 20d.

(Fo. clxxj.) A.D. 1530. Sir Humphry Guynnysoye, Knight, one of the King's Judges, is elected into this fraternity; fine 6s. 8d.

In addition to the foregoing notes of entries in the Stratford Gilde Ledger, many others might be here given, which show the respectability, magnitude, and consequent importance and influence of this very ancient and once flourishing fraternity, a fraternity which, at one period of its history, enrolled among its members the names of persons of the greatest distinction and celebrity in the surrounding country; but a list of these would now be of less interest to general readers than to the local antiquary.

THOMAS FISHER.

[1835, *Part I.*, pp. 162-167.]

On examining the records of the Gilde of Holy Cross of Our Lady the Blessed Mary and St. John Baptist at Stratford-upon-Avon, it appeared that Dugdale* had given a very imperfect account of it, tracing the fraternity no further back than to the reign of King Henry IV., whereas the muniments which I was allowed to inspect and transcribe carried back the history of the Gilde to the reign of Edward I., at which time there appeared to have been a Gilde of Holy Cross, a separate fraternity of Our Lady, and another of St. John Baptist, which three distinct societies were afterwards incorporated into one Gilde. It also appeared that in the reign of Edward I. the Gilde of Holy Cross obtained the use of a place then called Rode Hall as a place of meeting, and the reversion of the

* "Warwickshire," p. 484.

edifice in fee after the decease of its then owner, Alfred de Beguiden. This I take to be the origin of the Gilde Hall. . . .

Of the economy and policy of the fraternity some interesting particulars were gleaned from the documents already referred to, and especially from the diary or ledger of the Gilde, a very curious volume, written in law Latin, with many abbreviations. This record commences with the eighth year of Henry IV., A.D. 1406, and concludes with the twenty-sixth of Henry VIII., A.D. 1533, and is entitled "The Ledger of the Gilde of the Holy Cross, our Lady, and Seynt John the Baptist, of Stratford-upon-Avene."*

To this volume is prefixed the constitutions of the fraternity in English, of which I subjoin a transcript.

The object which this Gilde professed chiefly to have in view, as appears from various entries in their ledger, was one which was at that time regarded throughout Europe not only as an object of the highest importance, but as obtainable in no other way than by the prayers of Holy Church—viz., the safety after death of the souls of the faithful. With a view to the security of this object, mass was constantly said in the Gilde's Chapel, and at the altars which they possessed and supported in the parish church. They appear ordinarily to have had four chaplains, and at no time less than two, and to have erected the Gilde Chapel in the High Street, Stratford (which was, for its age and situation, a splendid edifice), for the sole purpose of there maintaining hourly prayers or masses for the souls of the departed "brethoryn" and "sustoryn" of the fraternity, and in which lamps were kept burning, and to which periodical processions were made. Of these processions some rather ludicrous notices are to be found among the records.

Next to the religious object contemplated by the association of this fraternity was a civil jurisdiction with which they were invested, administering the police of the town, and undertaking the adjudication of all disputes among themselves, the members being, as will be seen on reference to the last article of their constitutions, prohibited, under pain of dismissal, from going to law with each other without the consent of the Master and Aldermen of the Gilde.

Charity was another object of the incorporation of this fraternity, who dispensed periodical bounty to their decayed members, of whom some were accommodated with residences in an alms-row.

This Gilde had also the management of one or more establish-

* This ledger is a folio volume, measuring 15 inches in depth, 11 inches in breadth, and 3 inches in thickness. It is made of a thick, stout writing paper, browned by time, and the pages ruled with red lines in the manner of ancient manuscripts. It appears to have been strongly bound, the sections stitched on thick thongs of leather, and enclosed between two pieces of good oak plank, covered with a stout hide, and the back and sides richly rolled and stamped with roses and dragons. The volume appears to have had clasps, but at present is secured by strong silk ties. It contains 177 folios.

ments for education, of considerable antiquity. There is a deed dated 22 Edward IV. which regulates the endowment of one of these schools and the appointment of the master, who was to have a salary. The school was a free grammar school, under the superintendence and control of the Master and Aldermen of the Gilde. The schoolmaster was to teach efficiently, and was expressly prohibited from taking anything from those whom he taught for teaching them.

The maintenance of good fellowship, by means of and at their periodical meetings, was also an object held constantly in view by this ancient fraternity. Of their friendly or Gilde meetings, one annually appears to have been pre-eminent. It was called "the Communion," and was very fully attended, if any judgment on that fact may be formed from the Gilde accounts, which show the extensive means employed to collect and accommodate the members on that day. It appears to have been on that day that the members went annually in grand procession, each wearing his hood of the delivery (whence the word livery*) of the Gilde. Much pageantry was displayed in these processions, at the cost of the Gilde, as appears by their accounts, by which it also appears that their table was most profusely spread; the markets poured in their stores most abundantly; the neighbouring parks were, with the consent of their owners, put under requisition, and horsemen (there were then no roads for wheel-carriages) were sent in all directions for dainties, and particularly to the sea-coast for sea-fish. The delivery or non-delivery of the Gilde's hood, moreover, appears in some instances to have been a matter of very special arrangement.

An important feature in the policy of this fraternity was that they threw open the door as widely as possible for the admission of new "brethoryn and sustoryn." Those who could not produce money were admitted on the production of an equivalent in money's worth, either goods or personal service to the Gilde. In this way some of the priests obtained admission, although in other instances the fines paid by them far exceeded those paid by the laity. Many of the manufacturers, traders, and dealers were admitted on these terms, undertaking, as an equivalent for the usual fine, to erect or repair buildings, or furnish supplies at the feasts and processions, or render personal services, either occasionally or constantly, as the case might be.

Another remarkable feature in their policy, and which strikingly illustrates the superstition of the age in which this Corporation first flourished, is the formal admission to the fraternity of the Gilde of

* Johnson, in his Dictionary, does not seem to have been aware of this derivation; he says, "Liveryman, a freeman of some standing in a city company"; but the livery were those only who wore the hoods or dresses of the *delivery* of the fraternity.

the souls of persons deceased, and of whom many had not, and some of them could not have had, the capacity to enjoy that privilege while they were living. There is one entry of this kind on folio 172, which enumerates, but without Christian names, six persons surnamed Whityngton, the children of John Whityngton, of Stratford, who were all admitted to the benefit of the prayers of the Gilde for ten shillings. This entry is the more remarkable because it is found, on a careful inspection of the records of the Gilde, that between the years 1406, when the ledger commences, and 1529, the date of this entry, some cause, and none more probable than the progress of the reformation of religion, had operated very unfavourably on the general credit and interests of the Gilde, both as a civil and ecclesiastical fraternity, and, as there appears reason to believe, the latter more particularly. The value of an incorporation into the Gilde had most certainly fallen between the former and the latter of the above-mentioned dates from twenty shillings to twenty pence, and the average number of admissions had nevertheless decreased; and although the practice of enfranchising souls, as compared with the numbers of living persons admitted, had apparently increased within the same period, it is difficult to account for the falling off in the aggregate number and value of the admissions in any other way than by supposing that the Church of Rome, having gradually lost credit with the public, and been compelled to let go her hold on the minds of the people of this and other (till then) Roman Catholic States, the value of the prayers of such a fraternity as this for the souls of their deceased members had decreased, and, as a consequence of that decrease the desire for incorporation had diminished.

Many very distinguished persons appear to have been members of the Gilde, including George, Duke of Clarence, and Isabel his wife, with Edward, Lord Warwick, and Margaret, their children, who were admitted in the seventeenth year of the reign of Edward IV., on payment of a fine of eight marks.

Not the least extraordinary of the entries in the Gilde ledger is to be found on folio 177 (26 Henry VIII.), of which the following is a translation: "The soule of Thomas, *foole* in the family of the Lady Anne Graye, *xxd.*"

Females are recorded to have been admitted in contemplation of matrimony, and no doubt as a qualification for that enviable state, and there is one entry of a clergyman of rank, who, for reasons not assigned, introduced a female called "*Matilda super montem.*"

Among the services for which the fine was occasionally commuted were law agency, and personal services in masonry, in carpentering, in glazing, in cooking, etc.; and among the articles of value which were given in lieu of fines were books, chalices, vessels, vestments, armour, a clock, sheep with lamb, rams, beasts, some pepper, etc.

The manuscripts from which I have collected the particulars contained in the foregoing notes, now offered to you for the information and amusement of your antiquarian readers, contain much more that is curious and illustrative of the age and neighbourhood to which they relate; but the above, with the subjoined transcript of the constitutions of the Gilde, and a few translated extracts from the Gilde ledger, classed under different heads, may suffice for the present.

The utility of this and similar societies, as the models and foundation of the popular institutions of our country, will scarcely admit of doubt; nor will many persons be disposed to admit, even at the present moment, that they are altogether so valueless as to be fit only for destruction. Whatever abuses have crept in ought, no doubt, to be corrected without delay, and means devised for that purpose. The effects of time and decay upon them ought to be repaired; and in most instances, as in the present, this may be done by a return to the original institutions (their superstition excepted), as traceable in their authentic records. For the accomplishment of this object, it is to be hoped that such means may be judiciously employed as will render our ancient local incorporations still valuable as a portion of the body politic, and fit them again to subserve great and important purposes in the neighbourhoods in which they exist.

Many of the uses for which they were intended can be best accomplished by such local institutions, and some of them are almost, if not altogether, impracticable, by means of large national establishments. Such are the local police, the education of the whole of the population, and the support of meritorious age declining into poverty. Corporations have also been found very serviceable in the promotion and extension of trade, and in the improvement of some of our manufactures. All these important ends may still be promoted by them, if they are made sufficiently accessible to the whole population of a district, without improper partiality and invidious distinctions; and if, in the administration of their trusts, they are held amenable to superior jurisdictions, and compelled to give to their transactions due publicity.

THOS. FISHER.

CONSTITUTIONS AND ORDINANCES OF THE GILDE.

In Dei no'i'e, Amen. Here bygynneth the Constitucyons and ordinauncys for the good gou'naunce and rewle of the Gilde of the Holy Cros, owre Lady, and Seynt John the Baptist, of Stratford vppon Auene, made and ordeynyd the Monday next after the fest of the translac'on of Seynt Thomas the Martir, the yere reyne of Kynge Harry the Sixte after the Conquest the xxjth, to be vsed and had from this day forwardis.

In the furst, for the rewle and the good gou'naunce of all the prystis of the seyde Gilde, that is to sey, that the dyvyne s'uyce and

all devociouns and prayeris ordeynyd and grauntyd by the maystoris of the Gilde, Aldirme' and p'ketors here to foryn byn observyd and kept by the prustys of the seyde Gilde, and by euery of them.

As to the furst masse, that to be bygonne at vij of the klok in the morow, or sone vppon.

The second masse to be bygonne at vij of the klok, and so forth, at viij of the klok thrydde masse to be bygonne, and at ix of the klok the iiijth masse to be bygonne, so that hit be don' by x of the klok.

Also yef the Maystirs, Aldirmen, and p'k'atoris [procurators or proctors], or eny worthy brothir of the Gilde, have nede to haue a masse er the owre of vj of the klok, that thenne one of the prystys be redy to sey a masse by resonabull warny'ge to fore.

Also the same prystys as hit is a fore ordeynyd (as wel by the Kyng as by Byschoppis, that both patronys and fownders of the seyde Gilde), they schull ety'n and drynke to gedir in on hows, w^t inne the seyde Gilde, but yef eny lawfull cawse let hit, and also lygge in ther chamborys w^t inne nyghtly, that both asynyd for hem, and eu'y nyght in wyntir, to be wyth inne at vij of the klok, and in' somer at viij of the klok, and as for thore mete dyghtynge, and thor ordynans of ther melys w^t inne them (the maystir schall ordeyne a cook to dyghte hit, and serue them ther of), they fyndynge the cook mete and drynke and cloth, and the maystirs to pay him his huyre.

Also the same prystis schull come the fowre pryncipall festis to the parissch churche, and be there at p'cession in thor copys and goon in to the quere in thor surplyss, and do dyvyne s'uyce as they owyn to do, and there abyde til masse be don', savynge that on' pryste that abydyth at home to do dyvyne s'uyce to the pore pepull and impotent.

Also the same prystes, whenne eny brothir or sustir is ded, in the day of hys buryenge they schull gon' w^t the prystis of the collage togedir in ther sirplice, to brynge the coors to churche, and there abyde till masse, and buryenge be don' w^t all the dylygens and obseruaunce that they can do.

Also the seyde prystis schulnot goon to no wakys, nor in to the contrey, to sey no masse, ne in no' othir wyse w^t outyn' leve of the Maystirs and sume of the Aldirme'.

Also yef eny voyse or disclaimder be on' eny of the seyde prystys of mysdrawgh' more in to eny suspecius place then in to an' other, that vppon warny'ge by the Maystirs that he leve hitt, or ellis to voyde his seruyce.

Also whenne eny pore man or womman is ded in' the almys rewe, the seyde prysts to be redy to brynge the coors to churche, and there to abyde till hit be buried.

Ouyr more, As for the good gou'naunce and rewle as of the maystirs of the seyde Gilde, ffurst as for ther elec'con, that it be don' after the forme and especiall grawnte of the Kyngys p'genytours, and the confirmac'on of the Kyng that now is, as wythinne hem

pleuorlych hit is conteynyd, and so forth, of p'kators yerelych to be had, and Aldyrmyn, as hit is in the same conteynyd.

And the chaunge of the Maysters, Aldirmen, and p'kators yerelych to be had, as hit is conteynyd in the same chartorys, but yef hit seme or be more p'fitabull to kepe stille the same by avyse and asent of the most worthy brethoryn' lordys, knyghtys, and squyers, yef they wolen be p'sent, and so of the p'kators and aldermen.

Also hit is ordeynyd that the Mayster schall reseuye no brethoryn, nor susteryn out of the p'sens of the Aldermen or tweyne of hem at the lest, and the clerke to enter hit, and that the lyght seluyr be not p'donyd nor relesid in no gyse; and that he take suffisaunt sewerte for the paymentis, and that to be payd w^t inne the yere, vppon' peyne to be dettur ther of hym selfe.

Also hit is ordeyned that the p'kators schull reseuye the lyght silver, and ther of make dewe and trewe accounte, and make the expence there as hit is nedefull.

Also the p'kators schull reseyvyn all the rentis longynge to the same Gilde, and ther w^t pay the prystis ther selarie at the termys, as hit longyth to them, the mayst' delyu'nge him a rentall.

Also the seyd p'kators schall haue the gou'naunce and charge of the rep'a'con of all the teneme'tz that longyn to the same gilde by ou'syst of the mayster and alle the Aldirmen eu'y yere twyes, to the whiche they schull be sworyn in especyall to be don'; and yef the rentis wolnot suffice to pay the prystis, and make the rep'a'con, the maystir schall of his othir p'quysitis delyu' to the same p'kato'rs money suffisaunt to the satisfaccon' of the rep'a'con'.

Also the p'kators schull make the purvyauce for the festis and dyners that schull be had and made for the p'fyte of this place by avyse, supportacon' and helpe of the maystirs for the tyme, and all the Aldermen, and to the costis ther of there as nessessary is the maystirs (yef the p'kators have not wher of) schall delyu' hym of the perquysitis of the place.

Also the maystir schall make at eu'y quarter of the yere a day of counsell, havynge there all his Aldirme' and othir worthy brethoryn, yef ther be cause of nede there for to comyn of all maters that byn at that time nessessary for the place, and that all the Aldirmen by resonabull warnynge, and evene be there redy Jchone of hem, vppon peyne to pay to the seyd Gilde eu'y of hem that maketh defaute, xld.; but yef he haue a resonabull cause of excuse, and that to be areysid w^t out eny grace.

Also the Maystir schall eu'y yere ordeyn cloth for hodynge, but yef ther be a cause notabull that myght turne the place to gret harme, and for his hodynge he to make purviaunce by tyme to the most p'fyte of the place; and that, by the avice of all his Aldirmen', and that he charge not the place w^t no charge, and no thynge do that may be hurt to the place without-avice and sent of all his Aldirmen.

And also hit is ordeynyd that the p'kators schull warne all brethoryn and sustoryn that the day of the feast to foryn the tyme of the hyghe masse, they by'n at the maystorys hows, and fechyn hym to church, the prystis of the Gilde metynge hym at the cros at the chapell dore, w^t hor cros and baner, and in ther surplic' and copis, yet the wedir wol schape.

Also that ther be an Inuentory made of alle the godys of howsold that longyth to the place of the seyde Gilde, and thenne by endenture deluy'd to the p'kators of this yere, and so from yere in to yere, and from p'kator to p'kator, and the same Inuentory to be leyde in the tresorye for record, yef eny be lost to charge the p'kators ther wyth, in whos tyme hit is lost, and that hit be deluy'd a day othir too to foryn' the day of accountys.

Also hit is ordeynyd that no brothir be chosyn Aldirman, but yef he be a p'kator to foryn, and that no brother nor suster haue no seruice of mete to ther howsys on the feest day wyth out forth, but yef he be so seeke that he may not com at the halle.

Also it is avisid and ordeynyd that eu'y brothir and sustir that schall be resevid in to this frat'nyte be sworn in the forme that sewyth.

Ffirst, he schall be sworn' that he schall trewly pay his fyn', and that wyth inne the yere or yeres agrede, and his lyght seluer; secundarilych, he schall be sworn that he schall be good and trewe to this place, and trewlych the p'fite therof by his power abette and storn' to the p'fite therof, and also yef eny debate falle by twene hym and eny of his brethoryn' of the seyde Gilde, he schall come to the Maystir, and complayne hym of his greuance, so that the Maystir may make ende by twene hym and his au'sary. And that he schall sewe no' of his brethoryn in' no court w^t out leve of the Maystir and the Aldirmen', uppon peyne to pay to the seyde Gilde, xxs.; and that trewly to be payd, or ellis to voyde his brothirhode.

Following the above is a note of reference to the charter for the conduct of the election and distribution of alms, and then in a more modern hand the following, from which it appears that the evils of favouritism and undue partiality are not altogether of modern date, but that they had grown up in this ancient fraternity before the Reformation, and that means were then devised for the redress of them.

And for as moche as grete inconvenans and hurt hathe g'wen to this yeld by pryvate affecon and grawnte of the Master, and parte of his brethren, and nott doon by the goode mynde, wyll, and assent of the said Master and all his Aldremen, accordyng as hit is of old tyme ordeynyd.

Therefore for reformacon therof, and for the com'on wele of the Gild afors^d, hit is fully condesfe'did, concluded and agreyd to be

establisshed, and formerly kept from hens forth, by John brightwell, then master of the yeld, to wete, the xxj day in May, in the yere of our lord god m^{co}, and by Ric bentley, Ric bogy, John bedyll, Thom's handys, Thom's Myghell, John Samwell, Will'm bogy, and Edmond barker, then aldermen of the same yeld.

That no maner of g'unte nor lese of land nor tene't, by endent', nor takyng in of any preest, scolmaster or other, or any such cause chargeable to the place, be doon or graunted wthoute the full assent, counsell, and agreeme't of the seid Master, and all the Aldermen that now beth, and also for all such as hereafter shall for the tyme beyng, in payne of v^{li} to be leveyd vppon him and his goodes, wthoute pardon, to wete, the money of all such forfeit or books to goo to com'on boxe of the seid gild.

And the same day and tyme hit was agreyd bi the seid master and aldremen, that the p'vate g'unte of md^o a yere gevyn ovt to S^r harry barnes, preest, under the seale of the yeld, in tyme of Will'm Jeffs, master, shalbe revoked and called in a geyn, for asmoche as h^t was not doon by comen asse't of all the Aldremen then beyng, and her vppon the seid S^r harry is warned ovt of the seid yeld ayenst Myghelm's next; and then he to entyr in to the rome of the scolemaster here takyng his old selary of x^{li}. by yere, yeif he doo his dewtee in techyng; and the scolemaster that nowe is to be warned at Mydsom' next, to avoide his s'rvice at Myghelm's.

The extracts from the Gilde Ledger will appear in a future number.

[1835, *Part II.*, pp. 586, 587.]

Allow me to lay before your readers the substance of an agreement between the Gilde of Stratford and the Abbey and Convent of Kenilworth, by which provision was made for a distribution of coals at Christmas among the poor of Stratford.

The agreement to which I refer (and of which I enclose a transcript, should you think proper to hand it over either to the Collectanea or any other repository of inedited documents) is in Latin. It bears date February 20, in the 12th year of Henry VII., and is entitled an indenture between Ralph, Abbot of the Monastery and Convent of the Blessed Mary of Kenilworth, and Richard Bogy, Master of the Gilde of Holy Cross of Stratford-upon-Avon, with consent and assent of Thomas Clopton and others, aldermen, and of the proctors of the same Gilde; and states that, whereas Master Hugh Chesenale, formerly Rector of the Church of the Invention of the Holy Cross of Clyfford-upon-Stowre, did in his lifetime devoutly deliver into the hands of the said abbot six pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence, to be applied for the honour of God and the good of his soul and the souls of his parents, the said abbot, with the counsel and advice of friendly and circumspect men, has determined to apply

it as follows : viz., for the purchase of twenty quarters of coal, annually to be distributed to the poor in the almshouse at Stratford, and to the other poor persons in the town of Stratford, on the festival of the birth of our Lord. The coals to be distributed by the master, aldermen, and proctors of the Gilde; and the master, aldermen, and proctors, when they give the coal, to say to the paupers, in the vulgar dialect: "Ye shall pray specially for the soule of Maister Hugh Chesenale, sumtyme parson of Clyfford-upon-Stowre, which ordeyned this almes of Colys yerely to be distributed among you poore people, to warm you with this cold wynter; and for the soules of his fader and moder, and for all Cristen soules, saiyng of your charite a pater-noster and an ave."

Not the least curious part of this document is the conclusion, which provides that the master, aldermen, and proctors of Stratford shall fulfil their trust well, faithfully, and without fraud, in the manner and form above prescribed; and, in case of failure, the master, aldermen, and proctors of Stratford agree to pay to the Abbot and Fraternity of Kenilworth for the time being the sum of 13s. 4d., by way of fine, for every default; and the Abbot and Fraternity of Kenilworth are empowered to distrain for the said fine, upon all the lands and tenements of the said Gilde of Holy Cross at Stratford.

This agreement is fairly written on parchment, and in high preservation, but the seal has been broken away.

There are among the records of the Gilde several appointments to the office of chaplain, of one of which I enclose you a transcript. It is that of William Partyngton, appointed in the 13th year of Henry VIII., and, as you will perceive, it invested him with one sacerdotal service, that he might celebrate Mass within the chapel of the said Gilde, for the brethren and sisters of the said Gilde, as well the living as the dead, he himself being in sufficient health, together with all other divine services during his life. He was to hold his office in sickness and in health, and to have an annual salary of eight marks, payable quarterly; also a chamber in the mansion of the Gilde, with a part of the garden and fruit, and free ingress and egress. Several of the earlier appointments to the office of chaplain stipulate for the delivery to the person appointed of a yard of cloth, to make him a hood, of the colour of those worn by members of the Gilde.

Upon an examination of the records of this Gilde of the time of Henry VI., I observed in several of the grants and leases a stipulation that, in addition to a reserved rent, the tenants should deliver upon the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist one red rose, and in some of the instruments it was stipulated that this rose should be delivered before 9 o'clock in the morning. THOS. FISHER.

[1837, *Part II.*, pp. 634-636.]

The repairs of the chancel of the Church of Stratford-upon-Avon are now brought to a close, the most material defects in the structure having been substantially and tastefully amended by Mr. Hamilton, under the superintending care of Hervey Eginton, Esq., architect, of Worcester, who gave the design for the new roof. . . .

At the time of Shakespeare's death, in 1616 (it has been remarked by Mr. Britton), "we may reasonably conclude that both the exterior and interior of the chancel presented a very different appearance to that which it had latterly acquired. It had not then been finished much more than 100 years; and it may be inferred that all the walls, buttresses, parapets, and pinnacles of the exterior, with the floor, stalls, windows, doors, carved screen, and timber roof of the interior, were nearly as sound and good as when left by their makers. That it had a timber roof is not only traditionally reported, but Mr. Wheeler, the able historian of Stratford, has a worm-eaten corbel angel, which belonged to, and supported one end of a principal beam. The mural bracket capitals, still remaining, are evidences that the architect designed such a roof; and we know that the nave of Stratford Church, and many churches of nearly coeval date, were thus finished. Hence, after much study and consultation, it was thought advisable to design the new inner roof in a style corresponding as nearly as possible with such examples; and it was afterwards deemed judicious and proper to recommend that roof to be adorned with armorial insignia; for such was a common practice with our ancestors in the Church architecture of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries."

On the exterior, the works have been judiciously confined to essentials—that is, the replacing of faulty stones by new ones, and the renewal of the embattled parapet, with the addition of a handsome cross at the point of the eastern gable. The stone-work of the two windows of the north wall next the east has also been renewed, their lower portions being filled up with stone (Shakespeare's monument is erected in one of them); but the mullions are made complete and uniform with the other windows.

In the interior, the repairs consist of a thorough cleansing; a new pavement in black and white lozenges so far as the ancient stalls extend; a range of new altar-rails of a pointed pattern; and, what is the most important work of all, a new oak roof. The ancient roof had been removed, probably during the last century, and a flat ceiling substituted. The new roof is supported by six arched ribs, which rest upon the ancient brackets, each of which is carved with three human heads. The design of the timber-work has been carefully selected from buildings of a correspondent age, and their trusses are

adorned with figures of angels holding armorial shields.* These, as well as other shields in the spandrils, etc., have been painted with the arms of contributors to the works, by means of a separate subscription, and under the skilful superintendence of Mr. Thomas Willement, F.S.A., of London.

The arms held by the angels are as follows. On the north side :

1. Ar., a fess between six crosslets fitchée gu.—Earl Craven.
2. Or, on a chevron argent three bars gemelles ar., in chief the hand of Ulster—Sir Charles Throckmorton, Bart.
3. Gu. semée of crosslets and three lucies hauriant ar.—George Lucy, Esq.
4. Quarterly : 1 and 4. Gu., three cross bows or, in centre point a bezant. 2 and 3. Sa., a dolphin bowed ar.—J. S. S. Smith, Esq.
5. Or, a chevron az. between three leopards' faces gu.—The Corporation of Stratford.
6. Sa. on a bend cottised ar., a rose gu. between two annulets of the first—Conway ; quartering, counter-quarterly 1 and 4 or, on a pile gu. between six fleurs-de-lis in pale az. three lions passant guardant of the field ; 2 and 3. Gu., two wings conjoined in lure or, Seymour, ancient and modern—The Marquis of Hertford.

On the south side :

1. Sa, on a cross engrailed or five ogresses, a bordure engrailed of the second—Greville, Earl Brooke, and Warwick.
2. Ar., a dancette sa.—Earl Delawarr.
3. Ar., three lions couchant sa.—J. G. Lloyd, Esq.
4. Erminois, a lion rampant sa. collared and chained or, between two crosslets in chief and an escallop in base gu.—John Phillips, Esq.
5. Ar., a chevron engrailed between three estoiles sa., on an escutcheon the red hand of Ulster—Sir John Mordaunt, Bart.
6. Gu., a chevron engraved between three owls ar.—Viscount Lifford.

In the spandrils of the timber arches :

Argent, a chevron between three crosslets sable—Rev. J. Davenport, D.D., Vicar.

Per chief embattled azure and gules, in chief the letters *John* or, in base a ton of the last, thereon the letters *Brit*, sable—John Britton, Esq., F.S.A.

Argent, two chevrons and bordure engrailed sable—William Staunton, Esq.

Or, on a saltire gules six pallets ermine—Thomas Battersbee, Esq.

Quarterly sable and gules, a cross engrailed argent—Edward Rudge, Esq., F.R.S.

* Mr. Eginton has lately published a large print (15 inches by 11) of an interior view of the building, in which the construction and ornaments of this fine roof are well displayed. It is published in three states, in outline, with finished effect, and in colours.

Per fess indented or and gules, three unicorns' heads erased counter-changed—Sir Francis Freeling, Bart.

Argent, a fess dancettée sa., a martlet for difference—J. R. West, Esq.

Sa., a chevron between three dolphins embowed argent—J. B. Freer, Esq.

Azure, a bend between two lions rampant or, a crescent for difference—Atty, Esq.

Quarterly, sable and argent, four tigers' heads erased counter-changed—J. F. Ledsham, Esq.

On the wall-plates between the principals:

Vaire argent and sable, a fess gules—C. H. Bracebridge, Esq.

Argent, two bendlets gules, each charged with another bendlet dancettée or—W. Landor, Esq.

Or, two chevronels sable—Archibald McLellan, Esq.

There are several shields in this range which are at present blank.

The line of gravestones covering Shakespeare's family, and those within the altar-rails, have not been disturbed; but the maledictory verses on the poet's grave* have been sufficient only to protect the stones in their immediate neighbourhood, and not those which were in the western part of the chancel. The latter have been displaced as so much rubbish, to make room for a pavement of black and white lozenges.

Very near Shakespeare's monument is the arch of a doorway which led to an ancient charnel-house contiguous to the north side of the chancel. The large corbels of this arch have been cleaned, and prove to be sculptures representing St. Christopher† and the Resurrection. The figure of Christ has been broken away from St. Christopher's shoulder, but the waves below, and the fishes in them (or, rather, on them) are perfect. In the other sculpture, the rising Saviour is much mutilated; behind are angels holding the instruments of the Passion, and in front of the tomb are three sleeping soldiers.‡ These carvings were probably deemed especially appropriate at the entrance of the bone-house—that drawing-room of death—as reminding the Christian spectator of his triumph over the waves of this

* It has been before remarked that this sentiment was probably suggested by the contiguity of the neighbouring charnel-house, in which it was formerly customary to deposit the bones which occurred in forming new graves.

† It is remarkable that the same sculptures are repeated on the spandrils of a doorway in the Chapel of the Trinity in the centre of the town, which was erected by the incorporated guild of the Holy Cross of Stratford at nearly the same time as this chancel. The only difference is that the carvings are placed on the contrary spandrils, and thus the Resurrection (whether accidentally or designedly) is still the carving nearest to the east. The present opportunity may be taken to mention that a description of several plates by the late Mr. Fisher illustrative of this chapel, its paintings, and its records is now in the press, from the pen of Mr. John Gough Nichols.

‡ It was discovered by the late Mr. Hamper, in the Dugdale manuscripts, that both these figures were the work of Gerard Johnson, a Dutch sculptor settled in London.

world, and his final resurrection from the ruins of mortality. This entrance is now entirely obliterated on the outside, the wall being refaced with ashlar stone. Another, nearly opposite, in the south wall, has still a door opening to the churchyard.

To the south of the altar are a piscina and three sedilia, resting on a cornice of angels, and crowned with fine florid canopies with crochets of finials.

On each side of the east window is a handsome niche (now empty) resting on a singular grotesque, bat-like monster.

These several sculptures, having been perfectly cleaned, now exhibit themselves to much advantage.

The grotesque carvings beneath the folding-seats of the stalls are also remarkably perfect. They are chiefly ludicrous figures of men and animals fighting and gamboling; one is St. George and the dragon, with the kneeling princess; on another two bears, collared and chained, supporting a ragged staff (the heraldic beasts of the Earls of Warwick); and on a third, a lady in a mitre head-dress, with a unicorn in her lap (the emblem of chastity), the huntsman just arriving to spear it, and these arms (probably only fanciful) on a fess in chief a crescent, three crosses patée in base. In one piece a woman, holding her husband by the beard, is literally basting him with that appropriate instrument, a ladle; another appears to be a scuffle between a scold and a cuckold, for the female is armed with her distaff, and the man with a stag's antler; and probably the figure of a naked woman riding a stag had a covert allusion of a similar kind.

The sculptures round the tomb of Thomas Balshall, Dean of the College, who died in 1491, and in whose time the chancel was built, are too much mutilated (purposely, as superstitious images) to be intelligible. This must be regretted, as they are not single figures, but, what is more unusual, combined groups. It appears, however, that the five groups in front were intended to represent these subjects in the closing scenes of our Saviour's life: 1. The Flagellation; 2. Bearing the Cross; 3. the Crucifixion; 4. the Entombment; and 5. the Resurrection.

The coats of white paint, inflicted by Mr. Malone,* are still allowed

* This well-merited reproof was shortly after written in the church album:

"Stranger, to whom this monument is shown,
Invoke the Poet's curse upon Malone;
Whose meddling zeal his barbarous taste displays,
And smears his Portrait as he marr'd his Plays."

To which another wit has made a reply, scarcely more complimentary:

"Ye who visit this Shrine
Of the Poet Divine,
With the patient Malone don't be vex;
On his face he's thrown light
By painting it white,
Which you know he ne'er did on his text."

to remain on the bust of Shakespeare and on the effigy of John a Combe ; but it is on record that the colours of the former were originally, the eyes a light hazel, the hair and beard auburn, the doublet scarlet, the gown black ; the upper cushion scarlet, and the lower green, with gilt tassels.

[1848, *Part I.*, p. 76.]

On December 6, in last year, the Gospel Elm, near Stratford-on-Avon, on the road to Henley, was destroyed. Early on the day the trunk was sawn through, and found, when too late, to be perfectly sound, and the grain of the tree most beautifully marked, particularly towards the crown. Scarcely a blemish or flaw was discernible throughout. . . . It was divided into thirteen convenient lots, and realized the sum of £22 13s., all being purchased to manufacture into pieces of furniture. There is a vignette representing this tree in Mr. May's "*Companion Book to Stratford-upon-Avon*," recently published. It is mentioned in a perambulation of the boundaries of the borough, made in 1591.

Stretton-upon-Fosse.

[1797, *Part II.*, pp. 825-829.]

Enclosed is a representation (Plate I.) of the church of Stretton-upon-Fosse, in Warwickshire, which I am inclined to believe was erected prior to the Conquest ; and, although we are not informed who was the founder, there may be some reason to conjecture he was a Saxon nobleman, who was, no doubt, the lord of this manor in very remote and early times.

The first person to be met with under this description was Brictric, in the reign of King Edward the Confessor. Whether it was the son of Brictric, who was one of the joint commanders of the English navy fitted out in the reign of Ethelred to oppose the Danes, it is impossible to determine ; but, from the uncertain history of those times, I am induced to believe, from several corroborating circumstances, that he was that Earl of Gloucester whose possessions were seized by King William, at the instigation of Maud, his queen, for having formerly refused to marry her. It seems highly probable that he was the lord of this manor, and, therefore, consequently patron of this church and benefice. On the seizure of his estates, the Conqueror gave this manor, in the fourth year of his reign, to one Osbert, son of Richard ; by whom it was held of him by one Walter, and then valued at 30s. It was afterwards granted by Osbert, son of Hugh, and grandson of the above Osbert, to Hugh Hubald, who was then his tenant, and progenitor, to the family of Hubalds, of Ipsley, in this county, in the reign of King Henry II. [about the year 1170], to hold of him by the service of one foot-soldier in the

Marches of Wales, for eight days yearly, upon fifteen days' notice. Hugh Hubald passed it away to Walter Commin, reserving the said service and 10s. a year rent; Osbert, the aforesaid son of Hugh, confirming the grant; and which service was to be performed in guarding Richard's castle in Herefordshire. In 1 Henry III. Walter Commin, son of the said Walter, gave it to the monastery of Bordsley, in Worcestershire, in 1217; which grant Henry Hubald confirmed, the abbot of which monastery and his convent were certified to be lords of this manor at the general survey and valuation taken of the monastic possessions in the reign of King Edward I. It is needless here to relate the successive abbots, as an ample account of them has been given by Dr. Nash in his "History of Worcestershire," so I shall purposely pass them over till we come to John Byley, the last abbot of that monastery, who, with the consent of his convent, levied a fine of this manor at the time they surrendered all their monastic possessions to King Henry VIII.; which rapacious monarch, on June 1, 1546, granted the manor of Stretton, four messuages, and eleven yard-lands, to Thomas Fowler, of this place, one of the convent's tenants, for the sum of £1,600 3s. 4d. to hold *in capite* by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, reserving to the crown 14s. 8d. a year rent, to be paid at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel. The grant confirms to Thomas Fowler, of Stretton, Thomas Badger, of Bidford, and Robert Dyson, of Irkborough, all the profits, perquisites, emoluments, franchises, and privileges, which belonged to the said manor, which before had been claimed and enjoyed by the abbot and his convent; excepting and wholly reserving to himself, his heirs and successors, all and all manner of advocations, donations, presentations, free disposal, and right of presentation and patronage whatsoever [those are the very words]. This clause in the original grant does not corroborate with Dugdale, who has given a catalogue of the patrons of the church, in which the abbots are not included; but the original deed, a true copy of which is now before me, is an undeniable proof that they enjoyed such privilege, which the King himself soon after sold to — Sheldon, of Weston, Esq. Fowler kept the premises but a few years; for he sold them to William Freeman, a gentleman descended from an ancient family of that name, who was settled at Ebrington, in the county of Gloucester, in very early times, as appears by a deed, yet extant, dated "Edwardi fil. reg. Edward II°." In the pedigree of the family [now before me] there was a Thomas Freeman, of Ebrington, in Gloucestershire, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. whose grandson, William Freeman, was born in 1 Henry VIII., and was the same person who purchased the above manor and premises of Fowler. He died in 1556, and left his grandson, John Freeman, his heir, then fifteen years of age. Upon his decease, an inquisition was taken at Stratford-upon-Avon by the Court of Wards, by which

it appeared that he died seized of the manor of Stretton, four messuages, and eleven yard-lands, and one tenement and one yard-land in Ebrington, and one burgage in Chipping Camden; and that John Freeman was his heir at law, who had restitution of the premises October 17, 1565, being then twenty-one years of age. This said John Freeman afterwards sold the messuage and lands at Stretton, in parcels, to different people, but reserved the manor; and, dying without issue, it devolved to William Freeman, of Blockley, gent., whose eldest son was also named William. He was born November 3, 1608, was bred a clergyman, and was both pastor and lord of the manor of Stretton. He was buried in the chancel of that church. He had two wives; by his first wife, Sophia Harrison, he had one son, named William, born July 1, 1647, and two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth. This last William Freeman died in December, 1686, and left his sisters co-heirs. Margaret, the eldest, was born August 9, 1645. She was married to John Freeman, of Todenham, and died November 6, 1678, and lies buried in Stretton chancel. Her husband was buried September 3, 1699. Her sister Elizabeth was married to Richard Newell, of London, merchant, but never had any issue. John Freeman, of Todenham, and Margaret, his wife, daughter of William Freeman, of Stretton aforesaid, clerk, had five children; three only lived to be married, viz., one son, named Robert, born in 1666, and two daughters, Margaret and Sophia. Robert, the son, was twice married, but had no issue. He was buried, September 27, 1728, in Quinton Church, and left the majority of his fortune to his eldest sister, Margaret, the wife of William Hughes, of Quinton, Gent., by whom she had issue two sons, John and William Hughes. John, the eldest, only survived her; of whom some memoirs will hereafter be given, after taking some notice of the other daughter, Sophia Freeman, and her issue. She was married to John Oakley, of Great Welford, Esq., and had issue one only son, named Edward Oakley, of Great Welford, Esq., who died December 25, 1740, aged fifty-five years. He married Magdalen, one of the daughters of Dr. Dover, of Barton-on-the-Heath, in Warwickshire,* by whom he had issue a daughter, named Sarah, married to a gentleman of the name of Gray, by whom she had issue Edward Gray, who married Martha, daughter of Robert Knight, Esq., and had issue Edward Oakley Gray, Esq., attorney-at-law, now

* Dr. Dover was grandson of the famous Mr. Robert Dover, of Barton, who was bred an attorney, of whom it is credibly reported that he never tried but two causes, always acting as a mediator between the parties, and advised them to settle litigious disputes by arbitration. About the year 1600 he instituted the Cotswold games near Campden, of which a faint imitation is continued to the present time, and is held annually, on the Thursday in Whitsun week, on Weston Hill, so denominated from its situation, being about a mile west from Campden, and from its founder, still retains the name of Dover's meeting. It is usually attended by a vast concourse of people.

living at Buckingham, who has two sisters. The male line of the Freemans being extinct in the abovesaid Robert Freeman, the manor of Stretton descended to Margaret, the wife of William Hughes, of Quinton, Gent., who by the courtesy of England held it in right of his wife. On his decease, in 1762, it came to his only surviving son, the late ingenious Mr. John Hughes, who was born April 14, 1714, and baptized the 29th of the same month, his uncle, John Oakley, Esq., being one of his godfathers. His father gave him such education as he judged was necessary for a private gentleman, in which station he remained with his father till he attained the thirty-seventh year of his age, having at intervals applied himself to the study of antiquity, and made some retrospective inquiries, as well as ocular observations, of many curious particulars frequently found in the neighbourhood, wherein he was happily and conveniently situated to follow those pursuits to which he was naturally inclined. Being arrived to those years of discretion in which most other men of easy circumstances begin to think of retiring from business, he seemed only to have attained his adolescence, and entering into a more active scene of life, by binding himself apprentice to a reputable attorney, with whom he continued till the year 1757, when, on the expiration of his clerkship, he purchased two messuages and about 127 acres of land, which had formerly belonged to his ancestors at his manor of Stretton, where he went to reside; and, being previously admitted an attorney, he commenced business for himself, and set up housekeeping, but never married; so that his whole family consisted of only three persons—himself and a male and female servant. His man was his clerk and amanuensis, an excellent writer, and in many other respects a very ingenious person. The housekeeper is also a person of an ascetic and curious mind, with a competent share of understanding, and is in many respects a very accomplished as well as industrious woman; who, with her fellow-servant, lived in a state of such tranquillity as is seldom to be found in more exalted stations, equally happy in being respected by the vicinage and in having the esteem of their master.

In this retired and desirable situation Mr. Hughes might have lived in a state of tranquillity through the whole course of his life if he had not encumbered himself with professing the law, which, it may be presumed, was never much to his advantage, but rather to the contrary; for he never had practice enough to acquire an augmentation to his fortune; indeed, it was commonly suggested that he practised more for amusement than he did for profit. This manner of proceeding often involved him in vexatious suits, at the end of which, though generally terminated in his favour, and to the satisfaction of his clients, he was a person of such general philanthropy, that he often sat down at his own loss. As a relaxation from the fatigues of the law, he sometimes amused himself with the con-

versation of his friends and acquaintances, ever showing a partial regard for men of learning or genius of which the parties, when formed either at home or abroad, generally consisted, while the entertainment was improved with reading and commenting on those authors they had the means or opportunity to consult. In this way he passed the remainder of his life ; and, by living in a regular and moderate manner, he retained his mental faculties till time and age summoned him to eternity by the inexorable hand of the fell sergeant Death. Among other publications which he usually read, the *Gentleman's Magazine* had the first claim to a share of his attention, which he constantly read with avidity and pleasure for nearly forty years, frequently expressing a desire that, whenever his dissolution happened, he might have the honour to have his name inserted among those remarkable persons whose names appear in the obituary department, which, with their biographical anecdotes, form a considerable part of that truly valuable and entertaining miscellany. But, by an unaccountable neglect of those whose duty it was to have endeavoured to have fulfilled his request, it was negligently or wilfully omitted being transmitted to the printer, I cannot tell which. But, be that as it will, the writer of these memoirs, however inadequate to the task, has taken upon himself this method of paying a tribute of gratitude, in hopes of perpetuating the memory of a sincere worthy friend and acquaintance, who, while with unfeigned sorrow he regrets the irretrievable loss he has sustained by his death, shows that unabated regard, which time can never efface, nor circumstances batter from a heart that swelling flows with a stream of gratitude while it dictates the recording hand to relate the virtues of a private man. He was, indeed, a singular character, and had so great a partiality for local antiquities that his house, to give it that appearance, was decorated with arms of different families from which he was descended ; and his external appearance, in point of dress, corresponded with the faculties of his mind ; for it has been credibly averred that the same brown coat and red waistcoat he wore at the time he entered himself as an attorney's clerk he constantly wore to the time of his death, which happened March 3, 1796, having almost completed the eighty-second year of his age. By his will he ordered his body to be buried in a grave 9 feet deep and covered over with brick, at Quinton Church, in Gloucestershire, and a brass plate engraved with an epitaph to be erected to his memory. He left his estate at Stretton to be sold by his cousin, John Ashcombe, of Evesham, Esq., paying out of the purchase-money to each of his servants £200 and most part of his furniture. He also left 40s. a year for ever, charged upon his estate, towards establishing a Sunday-school in that town ; and to a few of his friends £10 each ; and all the remainder after the legacies paid and discharged to the said John Ashcombe, Esq., and to the writer of

this account a few of his MSS. literary productions and antique acquisitions. . . . Mr. Hughes bore his arms quarterly :

- 1 and 4. Sa. a chevron between 3 fleurs-de-lis, arg. for Hughes.
2. Gu. 3 garbs proper on a chief, a lion passant of the field for Ruiter.
3. Az. 3 lozenges in fess or, for Freeman.

J. J.

Sutton Coldfield.

[1762, pp. 401-403.]

Sutton Coldfield is almost full south of Lichfield, at the distance of about 8 measured miles. . . . The parish is nearly oval in its figure, the longest diameter 7 miles, and the breadth 4 ; the face of it is agreeably diversified with gently rising hills, and valleys of tolerably fruitful meadows. It is bounded on the north by Shenston, on the west by Barr, on the south by Curdworth and Aston near Birmingham, and on the east by Middleton. It contains four hamlets, viz., Maney, Hill, Little Sutton, and Warmley. . . . The church stands in the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, deanery of Arden, and hundred of Hemlingford ; it is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and consists of a nave, chancel, and two side aisles, which aisles were built in the reign of Henry VIII. as an addition to the old building, by John Harman, alias Vesey, Bishop of Exeter. The nave, being very old and decayed in the foundation, was lately taken down and rebuilt with a sort of hard sandstone, of which there is a plentiful quarry within the distance of half a mile. At the west end of the church there is a handsome square tower, 60 feet high, in which is a deep peal of six bells, together with a clock and chimes newly put up by an approved artist in that branch of business, from the neighbouring town of Birmingham. There is a monument in the church belonging to the family of the Jessons (once of note here), put up by the late Sir William Wilson, Knight, an architect in this neighbourhood, in which two busts appear in a sort of alcove, or recess, which is supposed to be disclosed to the sight by the drawing back of a pair of curtains cut in white marble, with a golden fringe at their extremities. These, though overlooked by the incurious, are remarkable, being so well designed in their folds, and executed with such an easy flowing of the drapery as would not have disgraced a Roubilliac. There are three vaults in the church which are taken notice of for consuming the bodies deposited therein very quickly. In two of them lately opened corpses have been found to have been reduced to mere dust, together with the coffins of wood which enclosed them, the interment of which has been within the memory of man. The height of the churchyard and the sandiness of the soil may contribute to this. The present rector is the Rev. Mr. Riland, who is likewise the patron of the living. The church

does not stand due east and west, as churches are commonly supposed to do, but varies some degrees from the true points, the east end declining to the north, and the west end to the south. . . . In the reign of Henry VIII., the aforesaid Bishop Vesey, a native of this parish, procured a royal charter, constituting a corporate body, by the name of the warden and society of the king's town of Sutton Coldfield, to consist of twenty-four members besides the warden, with a grant to them of the whole manor and lordship of the parish, and also a large tract of waste ground called the park, containing about 3,500 acres, which is exceeding useful for pasturage for the cattle of the poorer people, and has also at present more than five thousand pounds' worth of wood growing therein, paying to the exchequer a fee farm rent of £58 per annum, under which terms they are still held by the corporation. The present warden is Joseph Duncumbe, Esq. The same bishop also built fifty-one stone houses in the parish, and died in the same place where he had so much exerted his munificence, in the year 1555, at the great age of 103. Before his death he founded a free Grammar School for the use of the parish boys, which he endowed with an estate in land, now worth near £100 per annum. The neighbouring gentlemen, who are trustees, put in the master. The statutes require him to be a layman, and that he, with his scholars, shall daily sing the Psalm of *De profundis*, for the souls of their benefactors. This ceremony you may guess is now omitted, but the custom of choosing a layman for the master is scrupulously observed. The present master is Mr. Paul Lowe. The school-house was rebuilt in an elegant manner in 1728. About a quarter of a mile westward from the church stands an old building called the Manor House, which, tradition says, was once an hunting-seat belonging to William the Conqueror. But however that be, it certainly belonged successively to all the great Earls of Warwick; the last of the earls who possessed it was Richard Neville, who, joining with the Yorkists, in the time of Henry VI., the King seized it, and by some means it afterwards became the property of some obscure persons, and fell to utter ruin, it at present only serving for the residence of a labourer. Sir Lister Holte, Bart., stands at present seised of the freehold of that, and some lands lying round it. The name of the last gentleman who lived in the house was Dawney; he died in 1671, and was buried by his own direction in a grave 9 feet deep, in a part of the churchyard where the solid rock is found at the depth of little more than 4 feet; consequently he lies 5 feet deep within the solid stone. His burial was further remarkable, in that the floor of the market-house fell down by the weight of a large assembly of poor people who were gathered together to receive a dole, or charity, given away in that place upon the day of his funeral, but providentially no lives were lost.

In the park before mentioned is plainly seen the course of Ikeneild Street, one of the four eminent Roman consular military ways. It is now overgrown with furze and heath, but being high ridged up with stone and gravel, it hath baffled all the efforts of time or the plough to efface it, and probably will continue unlevelled to the end of the world. Its course here is from N.N.-E. to S.S.-W., and it is continued without any considerable interruption quite across the island from Tynemouth in Northumberland, to Winchester and Southampton, a truly grand work, which will always be a just object of admiration. Some rivulets that take their rise in this park feed several mills built in and near it, not only for grinding corn, but for boring musket-barrels, polishing metal buttons, making saws, grinding axes, knives, bayonets, and performing various other operations for the mechanical traders in Birmingham, who, having had great numbers of their workmen impressed, or voluntarily enlisted into His Majesty's service during this war, have set their inventions to work to perform by mills many operations which used to employ more hands than can be procured in the latter end of a war, when so many have been buried in Germany and Canada. The event has rewarded their industry and ingenuity, and makes the dearth of handicraftsmen less felt than otherwise it would be. The streams themselves not being capable of constantly moving the mills by their common current, reservoirs are made, which yet have the inconvenience of being sometimes overflowed. Almost a century ago, viz., July 24, 1668, a great flood, owing to a sudden rain, flowed over a stone wall, above 10 feet high, which served for a mound to a pool close adjoining to the town called Sutton Pool. Two other large pools, of above 20 acres each, called Windley and Bracebridge pools, had their dam heads both broken through by the press of water deluging the meadow-lands below them, which very large quantity of water falling in the middle of the summer was then thought so remarkable as to deserve to be chronicled in the parish register, where the memorial of it now stands; the most probable opinion is that it was occasioned by the breaking of a water-spout. The park also furnishes some fuel to the poor inhabitants, from a vast magazine of peat near the Roman road mentioned above, composed of the rotted branches of some thousands of fir-trees, cut down by the Romans, to enable them to pass over a morass there. The bodies of the trees are sometimes dug up sound, with the marks of the axe upon them, which effectually confutes the opinion of those who suppose they have lain there ever since Noah's deluge. Besides this fuel, pit coals are brought from about 7 miles distance; they are laid down here at sixpence per hundredweight. Two annual fairs are kept here, one upon Trinity Monday, and the other upon November 8, at which are sold great numbers of horned cattle, horses, and sheep, but nothing of any other sort of commodities worth notice. A toll of a

groat is paid to the warden of the corporation for each horse sold, who appoints an officer to register the names of the buyer and seller, together with that of a reputable voucher, whom the seller is obliged to produce to attest his good character; the marks and age of the horse are also noted, in order that the sale of any stolen horses at this fair may be totally prevented. There are no paintings of any value in the parish, excepting one original of the Earl of Essex (Queen Elizabeth's favourite) in the possession of Charles Sacheverell Chadwick, Esq., of New Hall; but this has received damage by hanging in a damp room where there is seldom any fire. The buildings have mostly a neat appearance, the bricks being made out of a vein of clay, which turns to an excellent red colour when well burnt; they are sold cheap, the price of them at the kiln being only half a guinea per thousand. Marl is also plentiful, which, when laid upon our sandy soil, produces great effects, although the farmers injudiciously lay great quantities of lime upon their land (which is brought hither from some quarries 8 miles distance, at 25s. per waggon-load), this, by its heat, producing a fermentation, makes a show for one or two crops; but afterwards it is of detriment to the land, especially when often repeated, as the barren calx left behind is at best a useless load upon the good soil, if it does not contribute to canker the roots of whatever grows thereon. In digging wells, after one or two shallow strata of mould, gravel, and clay, a hard sand, or crumbling sandstone is generally continued to the depth of 60 feet, which is the greatest depth we have occasion to go to for water, but the depths are so variable that in some wells the springs are within 5 feet of the surface. The water is, in general, soft.

The rent of our best meadow-land scarcely exceeds one guinea per acre; the arable land is let at 14s. or 15s. The method of tillage is usually to plough up the turf in the spring, after which the land lies fallow during the summer, and at Michaelmas a crop of wheat is sown, after which three more crops are taken successively of barley, oats, or peas; with the last of these crops is sown clover, or rye-grass, to bring a turf again, which must continue for six, or even ten years before it is broken up again, otherwise the land will be too much impoverished.

INCOLA.

[1762, p. 472.]

A curious and useful correspondent, who has written an account of Sutton Coldfield in your last number, mentions some memorable instances of the munificence of John Harman, or Vesey, Bishop of Exeter. The facts there mentioned relating to this point I do not dispute. I cannot, however, help observing that this prelate is represented in a very different light by Godwin, who is in general an unprejudiced and impartial writer. I will translate his words: "The Bishop (at the Reformation) gave many of the estates belonging to

his see to the courtiers ; some of them he sold, and others he leased out at a very low price for a hundred or more years. Hence it has happened, that out of twenty-two manors originally belonging to this Bishopric, scarce seven or eight of the worst only now remain, leased out in the manner I have mentioned, and encumbered with various annual pensions. Out of fourteen episcopal palaces completely adorned with the most costly furniture, he left only one, and that entirely robbed of all its goods. Having committed these atrocious acts of sacrilege, he retired to Sutton Coldfield. On account of a dangerous tumult raised in Devonshire, which was imputed either to his long absence from his diocese, or else to his private machinations, he was ejected from that bishopric. He parted from it with no very great reluctance, as he had already accumulated immense sums by the sale of the patrimony of his Church, and had reserved to himself for the time of his life the rents of the alienated estates." I presume that the bishop in his old age was piously disposed to make some restitution for his robberies, but his charities at Sutton Coldfield are trifling in proportion, especially if we consider that they sprung from the ruin of one of the richest bishoprics in England.

[1801, *Part II.*, p. 798.]

Sutton Church is a handsome structure, having a massy square tower of stone at the west end furnished with six bells and a clock. The church consists of a nave, two side aisles and a chancel, and the body is supported by octagon pillars surmounted by circular arches, has three galleries, and a small neat organ crowned with a gilt vase. The pulpit is extremely beautiful, but the altar-piece is plain wainscot. The pews and galleries are of good oak, and are modern, uniform and neat ; and there are many good monuments near the east end, among which is a fine one of Dr. Vesey, Bishop of Exeter. He is represented in his episcopal habit and mitre, with a crozier, lying with hands uplifted on a tomb, on which is a long inscription in English, which I had not time to copy. His arms are in stone, carved and coloured, over the monument, also against the wall over his feet, above which are the arms of his patron, King Henry VIII., viz., France and England quarterly, supported on the dexter side by a white greyhound, and on the sinister by a red dragon, both regardant.

This prelate was twice Bishop of Exeter : first so in the time of Henry VIII., was ousted in King Edward's time, and the celebrated Miles Coverdale set in his place, from which the latter was turned out in the days of Queen Mary, and Bishop Vesey restored, and he died in the 103rd year of his age.

He was a great benefactor to this his native place, for he built the two side aisles of the church, and erected an organ in it, etc. But it

is said by some old authors that he "robbed* Peter to pay Paul," that is, he injured Exeter to benefit Sutton, by selling (in those times of dilapidation and sacrilege) some of the lands belonging to his see. I do not wish to defame the dead, and hope it was not so, that his memory might be untarnished. I also noticed in the church a large old painting of the arms of some of the Kings of the Stuart family, perhaps Charles II. . . .

Sutton is a remarkable neat town, situated between Lichfield and Birmingham, having many genteel families living in and near it. It is a corporation, governed by a warden, and the parish is a rectory. Anthony Burgess was a minister here during the Usurpation, and Dr. Sacheverell was a native of the place. In Queen Anne's time he preached here for a while, and was much followed by many from Birmingham. In my return homewards another way I passed by Four Oaks Hall, the elegant seat of Sir Edmund Cradock Hartopp, Bart., and formerly the residence of Simon Luttrell, Lord Irnham. I also crossed the famous Roman road, the Ikeneild Street, which, were it not for the straightness of it, and being elevated in the centre, could not be distinguished from the waste ground near it. A considerable expanse of country being to be seen from this spot of what was lately a large common, but great part of which now consists of many newly-enclosed fields of various tints, to speak in the style of honest John Bunyan, "it is delectable to behold."

[1807, *Part II.*, p. 1207.]

Sutton Coldfield contained in 1630 298 houses, and in 1698 310. In 1721 it contained 360 inhabitants, and in 1762 1800.

The number of christenings for twenty years, up to Christmas, 1761, was 747; of burials 694. W. P.

[1844, *Part II.*, pp. 270, 271.]

Sutton Coldfield appears to have been early distinguished as a hunting-seat of our sovereigns. The extensive chace (part of which still remains in its original state) was well stocked with game, and the pools in the vicinity were famous for the bream which they contained. King John dates several of his charters from hence, and shortly afterwards it passed into the hands of the Earls of Warwick (see Blount's "Tenures"). In consequence of disputes between the Earl of Warwick and Ralph Basset of Drayton, the part of the chace which was situated in Staffordshire was taken away, and the Warwickshire portion became called Sutton Park. At the death of Richard

* If the church of Sutton was named after St. Paul, the simile would be exact, for the cathedral of Exeter is called St. Peter's church; but I have cause to think that, by the fair and wake at Sutton, the church there is dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

Neville, or more probably at that of George, Duke of Clarence, it lapsed to the Crown, from whom, in the reign of Henry VIII., John Vesey, alias Harman, Bishop of Exeter, himself a native of Sutton, procured a grant of Sutton Park for the benefit of the inhabitants. Its history from this time is very short. During the Protectorate an attempt was made to cultivate it; but at the Restoration the inhabitants restored it to its former state. The park now contains about 2,000 acres of heath and wood and six large pools, of which three are the property of the inhabitants; the others belong to private individuals. Vesey, who, as Fuller says, robbed his see to enrich a beggarly village called Sutton Coldfield, was a most liberal benefactor to this place. He founded an excellent classical school here for the benefit of the inhabitants; he endeavoured to establish the clothing trade, and he built a large number of stone houses in various parts of the parish. Of these nearly twenty are still standing. Moor Hall, the residence of the prelate, has been almost entirely rebuilt; it is the property of the Hacket family (descendants of Andrew Hacket, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry in 1660), but the present inhabitant is R. Garnett, Esq. Near Moor Hall is one of the stone houses built by Bishop Vesey to protect travellers over the moors which in those days existed between Sutton and Tamworth. The place was so notorious as to be called the "*spelunca latronum.*"

The town of Sutton consists of one long street, through which the road from Birmingham to Lichfield passes. About the middle of the street stands the town hall, or Moot Hall, as it is called, an ugly brick building of the last century. Higher up is one of Bishop Vesey's stone houses, probably his winter residence. The exterior is almost entirely grown over with yew. On the gable end are the arms of Vesey and Henry VIII. and figures of the Trinity and Virgin Mary, rudely carved in stone and much dilapidated.

The church, built of red sandstone, is of various ages. The east end is probably as old as the reign of Edward I., but the chancel was rebuilt in the last century, and the aisles were added by Bishop Vesey. In one of them his monument, a recumbent figure in full canonicals, is placed. The rest of the church is quite barren of interest; there is no stained glass and but few monuments, principally those of the Jessons and Sacheverells, whose seats, Langley Hall and New Hall, are both in the parish. There is also a brass of the notorious Anthony Burgess the Nonconformist, who was rector here about 1656. The patronage of the rectory belonged to the Riland family; from them it was transferred to the Bedfords. The present rector is the Rev. R. Williamson, D.D. There are two chapels-of-ease at the hamlets of Hill and Walmley. The population is about 4,000. The number of free schools is eight. Sutton Coldfield is governed by an unreformed corporation, called "The

Warden and Society," and also by a Lord High Steward, which office is now held by the Earl of Aylesford.

Of historical events there are few. During the Civil Wars the governors of King Edward VI.'s Grammar School in Birmingham sent the marble bust of that monarch to Sutton Coldfield, to be kept in safety by the Warden, of whom they afterwards received it back, and reinstated it in its usual place. On the west side of the park stands a clump of trees known by the name of King's Standing, said to be the first point where Charles I. halted after the Battle of Edgehill. This tradition is partially confirmed by a monument in Middleton Church, four miles from Sutton, to a Lord Londonderry, who died of wounds received in Edgehill fight.

There are several other places worthy of notice in this parish. New Hall, formerly the residence of the Sacheverells, is a fine old place, and contains many interesting relics. Langley Hall and Pedimen Hall were both ancient seats, but are now farmhouses. Four Oaks Hall is a modern building, standing in an extensive park. It was the seat of the Luttrells, and the celebrated Anne, Lady Carhampton, wife of Henry, Duke of Cumberland, resided here. The present possessor is Sir Edmund Cradock Hartopp, Bart.

A. FRIEND.

Temple Balsall.

[1838, *Part II.*, pp. 268-272.]

Balsall was a member of Hampton in Arden, and was given to the Knights Templars by Roger Moubray, the son and heir of Nigel de Albini, Lord of Hampton at the time of the Domesday survey. Dugdale, under the title of this place in his "*Warwickshire*," takes occasion to introduce an account of the fraternities of Knights Templars and Hospitallers in general; but the particulars he gives immediately relating to Balsall are very scanty. Indeed, besides his statement of the original gift, they consist only of this, that John Beaufitz, Esq., escheator of the county, was the resident "fermour" at the preceptory in the reigns of Edward IV., Henry VI. and VII., and that after the Dissolution it was granted to Queen Katharine Parr. The existing remains are therefore left almost entirely to speak for themselves.

The preceptory of Temple Balsall was situated in a retired spot, about two miles from the turnpike road between Warwick and Solihull, and is approached only by winding country lanes. The site was formerly moated, and there is still considerable inequality of ground and indications of the ancient fishponds. The course of a considerable brook is close at hand.

No other remains exist of the preceptory except the church and the hall, which are little more than 40 feet apart. The latter, how-

ever, is not at right angles with the former, but inclines somewhat to the south.

We will describe the hall first, as the most remarkable, if not the older, edifice. Its breadth is 30 feet, and its length 70 feet. Whether it was formerly longer* is unknown, and cannot be ascertained from its external appearances, as the walls have been entirely rebuilt of red brick, a remarkable proof of the stability of the ancient timbers and roof, which must have stood alone at the time when the walls were changed. It has been stated that the walls were formerly of wood; their foundations, which are probably original, are of stone. At the western end, but not exactly in the centre (see the plan on accompanying Plate), still remains a very massive stone chimney, projecting 5 feet from the western wall on the outside, and measuring 8 feet in width. It rises from a sloping base which projects another foot on each side. A large stem of ivy has disrupted this base in a remarkable manner.

It will be seen by the plan that six of the wooden pillars which supported the roof† remain; and if the hall was originally the whole length of the plan, four others have been removed. At present the building is at this end carried up into another story. At the same time its width is narrowed, and a party wall divides it from the remaining portion of the hall. The square room thus formed on the ground-floor, and which is called the parlour, is now used for the courts leet and courts baron and their attendant dinners; the hall itself is occupied only as a lumber-room.

Two of the timber arches still remain complete, presenting this appearance. There are also lateral beams from arch to arch, as shown by the dark shading, and which are supported by bracket pieces from the lower dark spots, exactly as the centre beam appears in the cut. At Nursted a pointed arch resembling those at the side occupied the central division; and it is highly probable that the same was originally the case here; and then the only difference was that here the pillars, instead of being columnar, are square, with

* Dr. Thomas (in his edition of Dugdale's "Warwickshire," p. 969) states: "The great Barn contains eight large bays of building, one hundred and forty foot long, forty foot wide, thirty-eight foot high, and ninety tiles deep." Mr. Sharp, in his "Epitome of Warwickshire," 1835, p. 81, applies the measurement "140 feet long" to "the ancient Hall or Refectory," which he adds has "the appearance of a large barn." This is not the case—it looks like a cottage, as appears in our view (see accompanying Plate). We presume Dr. Thomas's measurements apply to an actual barn, which we did not notice on our visit.

† The various existing examples in England of the roof of a hall supported by pillars, which is supposed to have been the original plan of Westminster Hall, were enumerated in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for April, 1837, when a view of Nursted Hall, Kent, was given. Baggiley Hall, in Cheshire, of which an anterior view will be seen in Ormerod's History of that county, vol. i., p. 416, is another very curious and interesting specimen of a roof supported by pointed timber arches, though differing in plan and arrangement from Nursted and Temple Balsall.

chamfered angles. There can, indeed, we think, be little doubt that the two tie-beams and queen-posts are of modern construction. Though the walls are new, the stone pavement appears by no means modern.

Round the walls of the parlour are placed a range of painted shields. They are uniformly encircled in a wreathed border of black and white ribbons, with architectural trefoils or Tudor flowers at the four corners, and they seem to have been made for the bosses of a panelled roof. They are nineteen in number, but comprise only five varieties :

1. Gules, a cross or.
2. Or, a Saracen's head wreathed proper. The crest of Prior Weston.
3. Gules an anchor sable, crossed or.
4. The same, surcharged with a tun, inscribed *Likes*, evidently a rebus of the name of Likeston (see the cut overleaf).
5. Quarterly : 1 and 4, Ermine, on a chief azure five bezants or ; 2 and 3, Argent, three camels passant sable ; the whole surmounted by a chief or, charged with a cross sable. This is the coat of William Weston, the last Prior of St. John's before the Reformation, which shows the period of the formation of these coats. His mother was Katharine, sister and heiress of John Camel, of Shapwick (see the pedigree of Weston, of Sutton by Guildford, in Manning and Bray's "History of Surrey," vol. i., p. 135), and he here quarters her coat of the camels.

It appears from Dugdale that there were formerly these further varieties, then described as "armes paynted on the seeling in a chamber of the house" :

6. Azure, two foxes in pale or.
7. Gules, a long or passion cross.
8. Gules, the common heraldic cross or (as No. 1), surmounted with a chief charged with a cross (as No. 5).

It is added by Dr. Thomas that "on the great beam over the old kitchen chimney is cut in wood a chevron engrailed between three fermaux, in chief a Jerusalem cross, with this motto, 'Sane Baro.'" This was the coat of Sir Thomas Docwra, the Lord Prior preceding Weston ; but instead of "fermaux" (a species of heraldic buckles), we should read "plates, each charged with a pallet," the coat of Docwra being Sable, a chevron engrailed arg. between three plates each charged with a pallet gules, as they appear on his standard (Coll. Arm. Vinc. Camb.), and in the Parliament Roll of 6 Henry VIII., published by Mr. Willement. The same coat occurred no less than six times on the gateway of Clerkenwell Priory (represented upon every number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*), see the accurate engraving of the shields thereon in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1788, part ii., p. 853. In one instance there it impaled a cross

flory, the chief with its cross surmounting both coats ;* and in another (according to a plate in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for December, 1749) it impaled three lions rampant, the chief then being placed only over the dexter side. The chief, it is evident, is the usual distinction which was added to the family coats of the Lords Priors of St. John of Jerusalem.

We will now proceed to the church. It is built of a red sandstone, and is a rectangular structure of a single pace; in its exterior dimensions exactly 100 feet long and 38 feet wide. The walls are $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The architecture is of the best style of the reign of Edward III.

There are three windows on the north and three on the south sides, one at the east end and two at the west, namely, a large one of five lights immediately above a door, and a circular or wheel window in the gable. The character of the tracery, which is bold and florid, will be seen in the view.

To the north wall are five buttresses; the intervening space next the west is a dead wall; the next had a window of three lights; the next one of four, below which is a small door, now closed; and the last one of three immediately lighting the altar.

The east window is a magnificent opening of five lights. On either side of it on the outside are small brackets for statues, and above it is a round opening to the interior of the roof enclosed in a square panel.

On the south wall the first window next the east is shorter than the rest, on account of the priests' seats in the interior; the next, of three lights, is closed in its lower part with modern cement; there is a small door by its west side. The next window is of four lights, and in the last space is a door, which was formerly covered by a stone porch, of which the springings of the groined roof still remain. The entrance to the church was moved at the last repair from this door to that under the west window, the ancient hinges being judiciously preserved. In the south-west corner of the building is a circular staircase to a perfectly plain bell-turret, as seen in the view.

Of the exterior it remains to be mentioned that over the west door is a range of brackets, evidently left for the support of beams, and showing that that door did not originally lead into the open air, but into some contiguous building. A range of grotesque heads adorns the cornice of this front.

On entering the church, the stranger is struck by its peculiarity of being a spacious room, perfectly disencumbered, not merely of galleries, but even of pews. There were formerly three ranges of pews, with central and side passages, but the whole were removed

* Probably intended for the prior's brother, James Docwra, Esq., who married Katharine, daughter of John Haselden, of Morden, co. Cambridge; the coat of Haselden being Argent, a cross flory sable (*Vinc. Camb.*, p. 120) the chief being erroneously added by the sculptor.

about fourteen years ago. Now there is only one passage, down the centre, which is neatly paved, and ranges of open unfixed benches are placed on each side.

The altar is raised three steps, but without rails. In the centre of the church is placed a small octagon font carved with panelled tracery, which has the appearance of having been newly sculptured ; but it seems that it was formed out of a piscina which stood at the south-east corner of the chapel.* But the ancient font still remains, though not erected on its base. It is to be hoped that it will again be reared, where there is abundant space, near the west door, as it is really a very handsome piece of sculpture, and far more accordant with the general style of the church than its slim and comparatively insignificant substitute. It is of the bowl form, about 7 feet in circumference, very boldly and elegantly sculptured with foliage. It is well worthy of being re-erected.

To the south of the altar is a piscina formed within the wall, and a recess for three officiating ministers, having a fine florid triple canopy.

There are no monuments of any importance, and only two or three mural tablets and some inscriptions on the floor to the stewards and tenants of the manor.

On the north wall are fixed two hatchments. They are those of Lady Katharine Leveson and her sister, Lady Anne Holbourne, the daughters of Robert Dudley (the natural son of Queen Elizabeth's favourite, Robert, Earl of Leicester, and who was created Duke of Northumberland by the Emperor), by Alice Leigh, created Duchess Dudley by King Charles II.

1. Azure, three leaves or—Leveson ; impaling or, a lion rampant double-queued azure, charged with a crescent argent—Dudley.

2. Quarterly : 1 and 4, Argent, a fess sable charged with three crescents or, and in chief two falcons rising sable—Holbourne. 2 and 3, Azure, three lions passant argent, impaling Dudley as before.

Lady Katharine Leveson was the foundress of a hospital for aged females, which stands a little to the west of the church. It is built of red brick on two sides of a quadrangle, and at the upper end is the residence of the master, who is also the perpetual curate of the church. This house has recently been rebuilt by the present incumbent, the Rev. John Short, who was instituted to the perpetual curacy in 1794.

There are now thirty alms-women, who are taken either from Temple Balsall, which has the preference, from Long Itchingham in Warwickshire, from Trentham in Staffordshire, or Lilleshall in Shropshire, "the poorest and lamest" being pointed out by the foundress as the preferable objects of her bounty. There is also a school, and

* This was the case when a set of drawings of various parts of this structure was made by the late Mr. Thomas Fisher, F.S.A., whose original sketches are now in the possession of William Staunton, Esq., of Longbridge House, near Warwick.

daily prayers are read to the alms-women in the schoolroom. The present income of the charity is nearly £1,500 per annum. A very excellent house near the chapel belongs to the best farm, and the old hall may be regarded as one of its outbuildings. J. G. N.

Warwick.

PICTURES IN WARWICK CASTLE.

[1798, *Part II.*, p. 836.]

Breakfast parlour : Gondomar, left hand in leather glove stiff top embroidered. Mary, Queen of Scots, and son. Mrs. Killigrew. Duke of Alonzo, Spanish collar and cross; cane-headed like a hunting-whip. Dutch Burgomaster holding a large pole like a constable on guard. Alexander, Duke of Bavaria.

Another room : Anne of Denmark, whole-length, in long white gloves (C. Janssen). Spinola in Armour, sash round left arm, basket-hilted sword, a truncheon. Bust of Minerva, helmeted, with snakes on her robe. Henrietta Maria.

Another room : Duke of Valentia. Charles I., glove on left hand, star pendant. Lucy, Countess of Carlisle, stepping up; pearl bracelets on wrists, that on one hand seems falling as she lifts up her gown. Marquis of Montrose; original, in armour. Martin Ruckher, painter (all these by Van Dyck).

Another room : Prince Rupert, whole-length, buff skirts to armour. Richard, Earl of Warwick, whole length, spatterdashes and armour. Ignatius Loyola, standing, in a cope; on a book, "Ad majorem Dei gloriam" (Reubens). The Earl of Arundel, in armour, three-quarters; ditto. Lord Strafford. Machiavel. Prince Rupert, older. Mr. Thynne. Lord Brooke and his Brother.

Armoury : Queen Elizabeth, in stiff gold robes, globe, sceptre and crown. Sir Philip Sidney, in striped habit. Prince Maurice, with a leopard's skin over armour; in his right hand a truncheon. Old Parr; a stick in his right hand; doublet and girdle, left hand in it (original by Van Dyck). Philip II. Charles I. on a white horse, and page (copy by Van Dyck).

Dining-room : Fulke Greville Lord Brook, in ruff and high-crowned hat, green waistcoat and purple coat. Frederick, Prince of Wales; Princess of Wales and George III., infant, in lap; whole lengths.

Another room : Lord Brooke, killed at Lichfield; speckled slashed sleeves, buff skirt; flowing light hair, points. Achilles (Rembrandt). Duchess of Orleans, daughter of Charles II.

Queen Anne's bedchamber : Margaret, Duchess of Parma (by P. Veronese); her hand on a carpet and table; head-dress feathered; round her neck a collar of pearls, and medal appendant; a tasselled girdle in her left hand. Original portrait of the Earl of Essex just before his execution (Zuccherro).

Another room: Mrs. Digby. Old Man (Gerard Dow). Princes Rupert and Maurice, three-quarters, in armour. Anne and Mary Bullen (by Holbein). Francis, Earl of Bedford (Gerard Dow). Charles I. on a dun horse (Reubens). D. H.

[1800, *Part II.*, pp. 1142-1145.]

Warwick Castle stands unrivalled among our national antiquities for that perfect uniformity of ancient style which has been preserved in it even to the outer fosses, which are preserved in beautiful plantations and walks; and every tower is entire except one or two, which want only windows.

As the pictures in this fine collection are very frequently made to change their places, you will not be displeased to receive another catalogue of them, taken since that communicated to you in 1798.* Both will but serve to make your readers regret that a scientific catalogue of them has not long ago been published.

In the breakfast-room is a whole-length of Old Parr, in a gray beard, a staff in his hand, brown coat and ragged belt (Vandyke). A Dutch Burgomaster (Rembrandt). The Wife of Sneyder (Vandyke).

Over the chimney: The Marquis of Spinola. Gondomar, in black hair, dressed in a cloak and white laced cap, left hand in a glove (Vandyke). Man in Armour (Rembrandt).

In the china closet: Charles I. on a dun horse, a page following with a helmet (Reubens).

In a bedchamber: Lions (Reubens).

In the dining-room: Fulke Greville, first Lord Brooke. Frederick, Prince of Wales, in the robes of the garter.

In the great hall: Whole-lengths of Lucy, Countess of Carlisle, and Anne of Denmark; Henrietta Maria; the Duchess of Orleans, her daughter; Duke Valentia; Charles I.; Lady Brooke, in white satin, with a ruff and white gloves.

In another room: A capital whole-length, by Reubens, of Ignatius Loyola, in a rich embroidered cope, looking up to glory, right hand extended; on a book open before him, "Ad majorem Dei gloriam quicumque hinc Christi militiæ nomen dederit die novibus immoti superbos et tam grandes . . . bit solutionem esse, eber. . . ." Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in armour, helmet under right hand. Prince Rupert when young, whole-length, in armour, right hand on a truncheon, left akimbo. Richard, Earl of Warwick, whole-length, his right hand with a truncheon in it reclining on his helmet.

In Queen Anne's bedchamber: Margaret, Duchess of Parma, by Titian, her hand on a carpet spread on a table, her head-dress feathered, a necklace of large single pearls round her neck, and medal appendant, a tasselled girdle in left hand. A marble bust of

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1798, part ii., p. 836 *supra*.

the Black Prince. An original portrait of the Earl of Essex before his execution (Zuccherò). Boy with a Basket of Roses (Vandyke).

In the cedar drawing-room: The Muse of Painting (Patoun). Circe, three-quarters, with a wand (Guido). Don Ferdinand de Toledo, a Spanish commander, three-quarters (Vandyke). Charles I. in robes of the garter, right hand on a table, in his left gloves. Lucy, Countess of Carlisle, whole-length drawing, back a curtain, stepping up a little, a dog at her feet. She wears her hair, and has a necklace round her neck; another, double, falls on her breast; double bracelets on wrists; black gown, sprigged petticoat, lace ruffles and handkerchief. Anne of Denmark, whole-length. Another of Henrietta Maria. Marquis of Montrose, three-quarters, in armour, black hair and whiskers, right hand on a truncheon. Ricard, the painter, in a Turkish dress and whiskers, three-quarters. Wortley Montague, three-quarters, in Turkish dress, staff in right hand, sabre and turban. Marquis of Huntley, a head, in armour and laced ruff, hair, piked beard (Vandyke). In ovals, three sons of Lord Brooke killed at Lichfield. Head of Machiavel, arms crossed, wristbands to shirt, in left hand a scroll. Little Boy blowing bubbles from a saucer. Another Boy in gown and laced cravat. Head in ruff and armour (both these last by Vandyke). Charles I. and his Queen. A Head with a gold cordon and medal, ruff, black beard and hair (Vandyke). Another in a stiffer ruff (Davila). Earl of Lindsey, killed at Edgehill.

In the dressing-room: Princes Maurice and Rupert. Anne Bullein and Mary (Holbein). Hay, Earl of Carlisle, small whole-length. Dutch Boors at Tennis (Teniers). Henry IV. of France, whole-length, red hair. Head of Francis, Earl of Bedford, in a band. Mrs. Digby, an abbess (Holbein). Two Monks (Reubens). Charles I. on a white horse, and the Duke d'Epèrnon (Vandyke).

In the armoury: A hand-bell, the handle formed of four figures united. Inscription round it: "Me fecit Johannes a Une, a° 1547. Van all of God."

In the porter's lodge (which, by a new arrangement of the grounds made within the last five years, and not yet completed, is in a different tower from where it was seven years ago) are preserved the following articles belonging to the famous Guy, Earl of Warwick: His iron sword, weight 20 pound, for cleaning which 2d. a day was allowed in Henry VIII.'s time; iron shield, weight 30 pound; helmet, weight 7 pound; breastplate, 52 pound—total weight of metal, 109 pound. A Spanish halberd, a toledo, or sword, a battle-axe, two maces, two daggers, and a wooden truncheon. A rib of the dun cow, 6 feet long, 9 inches span the pith of her two horns. Vertebrae of the wild boar, a tusk 18 inches, bladebone of same dimensions. A walking-staff, 9 feet 10 inches long. The armour of the head, breast and rump of his horse. His kettle of bell-metal,

weight 300 pound, 26 feet wide, 3 feet deep, 3 feet 10 inches broad, containing 120 gallons; filled thrice for the coming of age of Lord Brook; to running over for the present Earl of Warwick, and once for the King. A flesh-fork used to ring it. An iron stirrup. A stone coffin, dug up at the great hall forty years ago, 6 feet 2 inches, containing a skeleton, said to have been a female.

In Rymer's "*Fœdera*," vol. xiv., p. 745, is printed a grant of Henry VIII., 1542, to Edward Creswell, one of the officers of the buttery, of the custody of "*Le Guy Warwik's swerde*" "in Warwick castle for life, at the wages of 2d. per day out of the rents and profits of the said castle, with all profits and advantages arising from the same custody, in as full manner and form as they were enjoyed by John Thoroughgood, his predecessor."

In a greenhouse, built on purpose for its reception, is the beautiful and magnificent marble vase which formerly stood on the grass-plot before the castle. It was found, as the inscription on the modern pedestal sets forth, in the ruins of Hadrian's villa at Tivoli, and brought over by Sir William Hamilton, who presented it to the present noble possessor. It holds 163 gallons, and rests on a foot. The handles are interwoven. The upper margin is adorned with a border of vine-branches and grapes. Under this is a lion's skin with the feet between three masks, the uppermost of which is between a crooked stick, lituus and thyrsas. On the other side one new mask has been added, which is the only reparation this *morceau* of ancient art has undergone. On the pedestal is the following inscription in capitals:

"Hoc pristinae artis Romanæ magnificentiae monumentum rudibus villæ Tiburtinae Hadriano Aug. in deliciis habitæ effossum restitui curavit eques Gul. Hamilton, a Georgio III. Mag. Brit. rege ad Sicil. regem Ferdinandum IV. legatus, et in patriam transmissum patrio bonarum artium genio dicavit An. Ac. N. MDCCLXXIV."

Three views of this vase are given in Piranesi's "*Vasi et Candelabri*." . . .

At the bottom of Smith's Street, in the eastern suburb of the town, on the right hand of the Coventry road, is a mansion house on the site of St. John's Hospital, erected, if I mistake not, by Anth. Stoughton, to whom it was granted by Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, and still belonging to his descendants, but let for a boarding-school, known by the name of "St. John's academy, licensed by authority for the education of young gentlemen, who are genteelly boarded, affectionately treated, liberally educated, and moderately charged."

On the brick piers of the iron gates are two goats rampant.

In St. Mary Church, north aisle of the chancel, now the lobby or engine-house, is this mural tablet of white marble:

"If a faithful discharge of duty, and the most honest, diligent, and attached conduct for long course of years can claim the expression of gratitude, it is due to

the memory of JOHN BAILEY, who departed this life on the 15th day of September, 1792, aged 65 years, and lies interred near this place. As a memorial of his regard for an excellent servant and a worthy man, whose loss he much laments, this stone was erected by George, Earl of Warwick, 1793."

Against the south wall of the chancel, under an urn :

"Sacred to the memory of WILLIAM HIORNE, late one of the aldermen of this borough, whose public character was distinguished by his zeal and integrity, whose private life by humanity and friendship. He died April 22, 1776, aged 64. And of MARY HIORNE, to her husband an affectionate wife, to their children a tender parent, to her acquaintances an amiable friend. She deceased 26 Jan., 1759, aged 43."

Under another urn :

"Sacred to the memory of FRANCIS HIORNE, Esq., son of William and Mary Hiorne, F.S.A., many years an alderman of this borough. He departed this life, much lamented, on the 9th day of December, 1789, aged 48 years."

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

Arms: S. three arrows o., a chief o. Francis Hiorne, Esq., was elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, April 7, 1784. To his good taste the town of Warwick is indebted for her latest public buildings, the town hall, sessions house and county gaol. . . .

D. H.

[1846, *Part I.*, pp. 35-37.]

In the year 1694 Warwick experienced the calamity of fire to a dreadful extent. On September 5, about two o'clock in the afternoon, some children were playing with pieces of lighted wood in their hands, and some sparks from them fell on the thatch of a cottage, which was soon in flames. This occurrence took place in a lane near the south-western extremity of the High Street, not far from the West Street Gate. The fire, aided by a very boisterous wind, rapidly advanced to the High Street, which it totally destroyed; it then passed a short distance into Jury Street, and, suddenly turning, advanced up Church Street, which was entirely consumed, into Sheep Street, where a few houses were burnt. The great body of the flames, in the meantime, proceeded as far as the Market-place, great part of which was destroyed before the fire could be stopped, after it had lasted in its exterminating career nearly six hours. The blaze was so extensive, that, according to tradition, it was seen at a distance of nearly ten miles. . . .

In a letter written by a gentleman at Worcester on September 10, the following passage occurs :

"This irresistible fire in five howers time consumed all y^e High-street, Church-street, Sheep-street, the great Church, many lanes and other buildings : the howses are numbered at present 460; the damage at the least amounts to 120,000^{li}. This account was sent yesterday to our Bishop, with a particular of the money already sent for their relief. Coventry, 200^{li}. Birmingham, 100^{li}. Lord Brooke, 40^{li}. Lord Coventry, 30^{li}. in all about 600^{li}. and wee are just going

to make a collection for the support of the misserable inhabitants."*

The MS. Annals of Coventry state that, in 1694, the Mayor and Aldermen of that city went from house to house, and to the different companies, and collected about £180, which they augmented to £200 out of the city purse, and carried that sum to the relief of the inhabitants of Warwick. In the whole, a collection of £250 was sent thither from Coventry, including £15 from the Drapers, £15 from the Mercers, and £5 from the Whittawers Companies.

In an address of condolence to William III. on the death of his Queen, dated January 17, 1695, by the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Warwick, is the following paragraph :

"The sense of the late amazing calamity which befell us, your distressed subjects of this Borough, was in a great measure swallowed up with the surprising tidings of this more oppressive and universall sorrow, and the fire sent from Heaven upon us was followed by the messenger of a more insupportable affliction. But, howsoever it hath pleased the All-wise Providence of God to dispose of our substances, we resolve to hold fast our integrity, and with a zeal great as our obligations, we inviolably devote ourselves and all that remains ours, to the service and defence of yo^r Maj^{ties} sacred person, title and governm^t ag^t all y^e enemyes of our establishment both in church and state."

"An Act for rebuilding the Towne of Warwick, and for determining differences touching houses burnt and demolished by reason of the late dreadful fire there," was passed in 6^o and 7^o Wm. and Mary, 1694-95.

St. Mary's Church would have escaped this devastation, had not many of the inhabitants placed their half-burnt goods in it as a place of safety. A very considerable portion of this ancient church was thus destroyed ; but, fortunately, the choir, Our Lady's (or the Beauchamp) Chapel, the chapter-house, vestry-room, etc., escaped uninjured. Most of the walls in the body of the church were, after the fire, left standing ; these were in 1704 repaired, and the tower erected under the superintendence of Sir William Wilson, architect, of Sutton Coldfield.† The cost amounted to £4728 14s. 7d.

Dr. Thomas, in his edition of Dugdale's "Warwickshire," says : "This church as far as the choir, together with a considerable portion of the town, was in the year 1694 consumed by fire. The loss sustained thereby was computed at £90,600, towards which they gathered by a brief £11,000, and Queen Anne gave them £1,000 more ; with which they rebuilt the church and steeple, and very little came to the relief of the poor inhabitants. The building of their tower alone cost £1,600, which is 117 feet high to the battlements,

* MS. Harl. 6839.

† Of Sir William Wilson some notices will be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for May, 1832, and in the "Churches of Warwickshire," p. 34.

and 25 feet more to the top of the pinnacles. Near the battlements are cut in stone the arms of all that have been Earls of Warwick, and lower down is this inscription :

"Templum B. Mariæ collegiatum primitus a Rog. de Novoburgo Com. War. temp. Steph. R. instauratum, postea a Tho. de Bellocampo C. War. ex toto reedificatum an^o. MCCCXIII. conflagratione stupenda non aris non focis parcente dirutum v^o. Sept. MDCXCCIII. novum hoc pietate publica inchoatum et provectum, regia absolutum est sub lætis Annæ auspiciis A^o. memorabili MDCCIII."

"31 Aug. 1698, the Right Reverend Father in God Edward Lord Bishop of Worcester granted a faculty to the Minister and inhabitants here to appoint and keep a solemn and religious fast within this borough upon the said fifth day of September, on which that great and very dismal fire happened."

A church dedicated to St. Mary occupied this spot before the Conquest. Henry de Newburgh, the first Earl of Warwick of the Norman line, formed the design of making it collegiate, and it was carried into execution by his son Roger in 1123. The church was in part rebuilt in the fourteenth century by Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and was completed by his son Thomas.

There are probably few churches in England, not even excepting the cathedrals, that have been the subjects of such frequent publications as St. Mary's, Warwick. From the account given by Dugdale in his history of the county a little book was framed by the parish clerk, and sold to visitors. This has passed through many editions. The Beauchamp Chapel and its monuments were described by Mr. Gough, also in several editions, and his description was revised and rewritten by his god-son, Mr. John Gough Nichols in 1839. Its architectural features received the attention and elucidation of Mr. Britton in his "Architectural Antiquities." Still more recently the edifice has been illustrated by Mr. M. H. Bloxham in Nos. I.-IV. of "Notices of the Churches of Warwickshire."

The view which we now present to our readers (from a drawing in the possession of Mr. William Reader—see Plate) is antecedent to the fire of 1694, and has not before been published. It will be found interesting to compare it with a print showing the church from the same point after its re-edification, engraved by B. Cole, in folio, and a smaller one by A. Motte in Dr. Thomas's edition of Dugdale, p. 438, or with one in the publication just mentioned. But its chief curiosity consists in its showing the room over the south porch, which is described by Leland to have contained the library of the celebrated Warwick antiquary, John Rous :

"Johannes Rous, capellanus Cantariæ de Guy-Cliffe, qui super porticum australem librariam construxit, et libris ornavit."

Of this studious and industrious personage we had the pleasure to publish a portrait and memoir in our Magazine for May last.*

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1845, part i.

Among the Harleian MSS., No. 5,705, is a thin volume by Wanley, written on parchment, which contains, among other things, the transcript of a very curious inventory of vestments, plate, books, and other goods belonging to St. Mary's Church, Warwick, made in 1464, which has been published in part in the "Churches of Warwickshire."

Among the books is the following item :

"Item v bokes beyng in the handes of maister Johan Rous now priest, whiche were sir William Rous, and bequeathe hem to the Dean and chapitre of the forsaide Chirche collegiatte under condicion that the said maister Johan beyng priest shulde have hem for his spiritual edificacion duryng his lief And after his decees to remayne and to be for ever to the seide Dean and chapitre As it appereth by indentures thereof made, where of one party leveh with the Dean and chapitre, That is to say, j. book *quem composuit Frater Antoninus Rampologus de Janis*, 2 fo. *Chorinth.* 14. Item, j. book cald *pars dextera et pars sinistra*, 2 fo. *Non dgh carere*. Item, j. bible versified cald *Patris in Aurora*, 2 fo. *huic opifex*. Item, a book of Powles epistles glosed, 2^o fo. *de Jhu qui di' x'*. Item, j. book cald *Pharetra*, 2 fo. *hora est jam nos de sompno surgere*. Item, j. quayer in the whuche is conteyned the exposicion of the masse, 2 fo. *co'is offerimus*."

From this it appears that the example of founding a library at Warwick had been set to John Rous by his predecessor and relative William Rous. A copy of the indentures above mentioned in the library of W. Staunton, Esq., of Longbridge, states that William Rous was a priest and hermit of Guysscliff, and that for the salvation of his soul he bequeathed the above books to the dean, etc., and that John Rous, when he came of age and had received priest's orders, should be permitted to read them. The indenture is dated at Guysscliff, September 25, but has no year. It shows that John Rous was the son of Geoffrey Rous, merchant, of Warwick.

Wedgenock.

[1783, *Part II.*, p. 753.]

Dimensions of the Bull Oak, Wedgenock Park, Warwickshire :

			Yds.	Ft.	In.
1 yard from the ground	...	...	11	1	0
1 foot from the ground	...	...	13	1	0
6 feet from the ground	...	...	12	1	0
Broadest side...	...	...	7	0	5
Close to the ground	...	...	18	1	7
Height of the trunk about	...	...	4	1	0

The inside is quite decayed, and when I saw it a cow and a sheep had sheltered themselves within it. The head is very round and flourishing.

T. O.

Wellesbourne.

[1784, *Part I.*, p. 347.]

In Dugdale's "Warwickshire," among the epitaphs in the church of Wellesbourne, occurs one for "Thomas le Strange, nuper *Constabularius Regis in Hiberniâ*." He died in 1426, the fourth year of Henry VI. Perhaps some of your antiquarian correspondents can point out the office held by this person. ANTIQUARIUS.

Wolvey.

[1824, *Part II.*, pp. 509, 510.]

The parish of Wolvey lies in the north part of Warwickshire, being bounded by the county of Leicester and the extra-parochial farm of Leicester Grange on the north, and on the north-west and west by the parish of Burton Hastings, on the south by Shilton, and east by Copston Parva hamlet.

It is a large parish, the soil being gravelly and light loam towards the north, and more cold and clayey towards the east; it was enclosed about 1798 by Act of Parliament. The principal landowners are George Arnold, Esq., who has about 600 acres; — Lloyd, Esq., about 600; — Miller, Esq., 350; and Messrs. Winterton, about 500 acres; the rest is divided between other freeholders, and the vicar has an allotment of land in right of his church.

This place has been rendered remarkable by Edward IV. being here surprised by Richard Neville, the stout Earl of Warwick, and taken prisoner.

There appear to have been three manors in this parish; the first to be mentioned is what was the property of Sir Thomas de Wolvey, Knt., who died in the latter end of Edward I., leaving issue two daughters—Joan, who married Sir Henry de Erdington, and Alice, married to Giles, son and heir of Andrew Lord Astley; and on this marriage of Alice, his daughter, he settled this manor and estate of Wolvey, with other property, on her and her issue, which Alice, surviving her husband, endowed a chantry (A.D. 1344) within the parish church; and on her death was succeeded by Thomas Lord Astley, which Lord Astley was succeeded by his eldest son William, who settled this manor and estate of Wolvey on his younger brother Giles and Katherine his wife by deed bearing date 1392, in whose family it was in the time of Dugdale the historian, being in the possession of Giles Astley, Esq., great-grandson of Giles and Katherine Astley, in whose family it continued till it passed to the only daughter of the last male Astley, and by her marriage with — Simmonds, Esq. (who resided at the hall house), had an only daughter Elizabeth, who married William White, Esq., of this county, by whom she had two children, a son, died young, and a daughter Elizabeth, who

married, 1777, to George Arnold, Esq., only son and heir of Lumley Arnold, Esq., of Ashby St. Leger, in the county of Northampton, and died without issue in 1788, when the property devolved on her husband, who married, secondly, Henrietta Jane, eldest daughter of General George Morrison, Quartermaster-General, etc., by whom he had three sons, to the eldest of whom he left this estate.

The second manor was at an early period settled on the Monks of Comb, and by them granted to Humphrey, Earl of Stafford, and his heirs, 8 Henry VI.; from him it passed to the late Earl of Coventry, who sold it, somewhere about 1794, to John Foster, Esq., of Leicester Grange, whose only son and heir sold it to — Lloyd, Esq., a banker in Lothbury, London, about eight or nine years ago.

The third manor to be described is that which is commonly called the Temple Manor, having belonged formerly to the Knights Templars, and from them passed on their suppression to the Hospitallers of Balshall, and from them to the Crown, 31 Henry VIII., and was granted, 7 Edward VI. (1553), to Edward Aglionby, Esq., of Balshall, and Henry Hogford, gent., of Solihul, and their heirs, which Edward, in 3 and 4 Philip and Mary (1555-56), sold the same to Thomas Marrow, Esq., who in the same year granted it to William Newman, who sold it in 1561 to Edmund Scarning, Esq., whose son enjoyed it in Dugdale's time, since which it has passed into the Miller family, and is in possession of — Miller, Esq., of Manchester, in this county.

On the estate is still remaining part of the ancient buildings of the Templars' mansion, called to this day the Temple, now converted into a farmhouse.

There is no gentleman's residence now in the parish. The old hall of the Astleys was pulled down by — Simmonds, Esq., who erected the present house, and after his death it became a farmhouse.

The advowson is in the alternate presentation of the Prebendary of Wolvey in the cathedral of Lichfield, and the two daughters of the late John Foster, Esq., who left it to them, separated from the Comb manor estate, which his son Robert inherited.

The church is a handsome and venerable building, consisting of three aisles and a chancel; in the latter is the burial-place of Mr. Foster's family, with a marble tablet to the memory of the Rev. Mr. Noble, formerly vicar of this parish. In the north aisle are some very curious monuments to the Astleys; two of them are altar-tombs, with full-length figures of a man and woman recumbent on each; the one at the east end of the aisle is of alabaster, the other at the opposite end is of freestone. In the centre, between these monuments, is a very handsome marble monument extending from the ground to the ceiling, protected by iron railings, to the late Mrs. Arnold, who was the last lineal descendant of the ancient family of

Astley of Wolvey, the estate having been in her and her ancestors' possession ever since the year 1303. A CONSTANT READER.

Wotten Wawen.

[1801, *Part I.*, p. 410.]

The manor of Wotten Wawen, county Warwick, is now on sale by the Master and Fellows of King's College, Cambridge, for the redemption of their land tax. D. H.

References to other volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library* :

Roman Remains : Alcester, Halford Bridge, Wilmecote.—*Romano-British Remains*, part ii., pp. 342, 343.

Architectural Antiquities : Coventry, Dunchurch, Warwick.—*Architectural Antiquities*, part i., pp. 97-115, 131-133, 373, 380 ; part ii., pp. 207, 208, 212, 213.

Ecclesiology : Inscription on bell at Kenilworth ; symbol of fish on tiles at Stratford-upon-Avon ; portraits in stained glass at Warwick.—*Ecclesiology*, pp. 141, 143, 149.

Folklore : Superstitious use of ash.—*Popular Superstitions*, pp. 185, 186.—Christmas custom of giving money to servants at Birmingham.—*Manners and Customs*, p. 193.



Westmoreland.



WESTMORELAND.



[1825, Part I., pp. 410-414.]

ANCIENT STATE AND REMAINS.

British Inhabitants, Brigantes, Voluntii and Sistuntii.

Roman Province.—Maxima Cæsariensis. *Stations*.—Alone, Ambleside; Brovonacis, Brough; Brovacum, Brougham; Concangium, Natland; Gallacum, Kendal; Voreda, Whelp Castle.

Saxon Octarchy, Northumbria.

Antiquities.—British Earthwork, Penhurrock. British Encampments, Milbourne and Haderwain. Druidical Remains of Ellerbeck (called Cock Stones); Helston-cop-stone, and the Druid's cross; Mayborough; Moorduvvock Oddendale (exactly half the size of Stonehenge); near Pooley (called the White Raise); near Rothay Bridge, and near Shap (called the Druid's temple). Roman Encampments of Castle-hows, Borrowdale; Castle-steads and Coney beds (exploratory camps to Water Crook); between Crackenthorpe and Crossfell are several (one 300 yards long and 150 yards broad); Haderwain (opposite to the British Encampment); Maiden Castle, Sandford, 2; Water Crook (supposed a Station). Roman Temple at Levins (supposed of Diana). Saxon Earthwork, Castle How or Castle-law-Hill. Danish Remains at Shap, called Carl Lofts (a most stupendous monument of antiquity). There are camps on the banks of the Eden, opposite Pendragon Castle; and at Kendal (semi-circular). Abbeys of Preston Patrick (founded in 1119 by Thomas, son of Cospatrick, removed to Shap); Shap (removed from Preston a few years after 1119). Priory of Battleburgh (founded in 1281 by the Lords Clifford, Percy and Vesey). Churches of Asby (an ancient edifice, much diminished by repairs); Askham (enumerated by Grose among the remarkable edifices of the county); Barton; Brough;

Crosby Ravensworth (founded by Torphin de Alverstain, temp. Henry I. exhibited curious specimens of architecture); Kendal; Kirbyshore (very ancient); Kirkby Lonsdale (120 feet long and 102 feet broad); Kirkby Stephen; Sizergh (in ruins). Chapels of Appleby (in ruins in 1482, afterwards converted into the county gaol); Applethwaite, on St. Catharine's brow (converted into a dwelling-house); Asby; Betham; Brougham; Burneshead; Crackenthorpe; Crosthwaite; Grassmere; Kendal, in Chapel Lane, another on Chapel Hill, St. Anne's near Docwra Hall, and All Hallows at Stammergate Bridge; Kentmere; Kirkbergh, near Langton; Milbourne (in which are the tombs of the Sandfords); Natland; Newbiggen; Patterdale (dedicated to St. Patrick); Reagill; Sandford (had one in 1353); Skelsmergh; Smardale (destroyed for several centuries); Stainton (founded temp. Richard I. by Anselm de Furnass, son of first Michael le Fleming); Stavely (handsome steeple); Temple Sowerby; St. Mary Holme, on an island in Winandermere; Wyth (stood between King's Meaburn and Morland). Stone Pulpit at Brough. Castles of Appleby (of great antiquity); Betham; Borrowdale (in ruins); Brough (built before temp. William I.); Brougham (keep supposed Roman by Grose); Buley (belonged to the Viteriponts and Bishops of Carlisle); Hartley (scarce a vestige remains); Haverback; Howgill; Kendal (erected on the site of some Roman fort); Maiden; Pendragon, at Mallerstang (erection attributed to Utter Pendragon, the fabled builder of Stonehenge); Warcois; and Whelp, Kirbythore. Mansions of Old Calgarth Hall; Kentmere Hall; Preston Hall (a farmhouse); Rosgill Hall (now a farmhouse, but the remains show its former importance); Rydall Old Hall (in ruins); Sizergh Hall (the seat of the Stricklands). Caves, Coop-Karnel Hole, etc., at Stenkrith Bridge; Pate Hole (a remarkable cavern in a limestone rock, two furlongs south of Great Asby).

PRESENT STATE AND APPEARANCE.

Rivers.—Barrow, Betha or Bela, Eamont, Eden, Helle Beck, Hunna, Kent, Lowther, Lune or Lon, Lyvennate, Mint, Rowtha, Sleddale, Sprit, Tees, Winster (the boundary between Westmoreland and Lancashire).

Inland Navigation.—Wigan and Kendal Canal.

Lakes.—Ais-water; Angle Tarn,* about 5 acres of water; Broadwater; Elterwater, larger than Grassmere; Grassmere, 4 miles in compass; Grisedale Tarn; Hause water, 3 miles long; Kent Mere, small, fed by the river Kent; Kepel Cove Tarn; Red Tarn, a mile long, of a brownish red; Rydal Water, a mile long; Skeggles Water; Small Water; Sunbiggin Tarn; Ullswater (the lower end of which

* A tarn is a small lake.

called Ousemere), about 9 miles long ; Watsdale Beck ; Winfell Tarn ; Winandermere, in which are thirteen islands, is 10½ miles long.

Eminences and Views.—The high land about Askham affords a most charming and extensive prospect ; Bowfell, 1,030 yards high ; Brougham Hall, beautiful prospect from the terrace ; Carlton Hall, extensive and varied prospect ; Crossfell mountain, 1,000 yards above the level of the sea ; Curwen's island, one of the loveliest and most sacred seats of simplicity ; Farlton Knot, a bold and high mountain ; Grassmere, "as sweet a scene as travelled eye ever beheld" ; Hall Hill ; Hard Knot Hill ; Hartsop High Field, from whence Broadwater is seen to great advantage ; Haverback Castle Hill ; Helsington Chapel, from whence a romantic prospect of the "sea, woods, rocks, and fertile valley below" ; Helvellyn, 1,070 yards high ; Kirkby Lonsdale churchyard, celebrated for its fine view ; Lowther Park, compared by Lord Macartney to the park of the Emperor of China, called "Van-shoe-yuen, or the paradise of 10,000, or innumerable trees," "so rich, so various, so beautiful, so sublime a prospect my eyes had never beheld" ; Mell Fell ; Murton Pit ; Naddle Forest ; Orton Scar, on its top are remains of a beacon ; Patterdale, much admired for the beauty and diversity of its scenery ; Rydal Head, 1,030 yards high ; from its summit the lakes of Winandermere, Elter Water, Grassmere and Rydall Water are seen ; Stanmore Dale ; Storr's Point, whence a delightful prospect ; Wallow Cragg ; Whinell, 500 yards high, on its top was a beacon communicating with Orton Scar ; Whitbarrow Scar affords a romantic prospect ; Wildboar Fell, soaring to a great height, and impending with a cape-like head over the country, from its base the prospect is exceedingly interesting ; Winandermere, the prospects along which are very picturesque ; Wreynose Hill, so denominated from its crookedness.

Natural Curiosities.—Asby Wells, one called St. Hellin's, and the other near Grange Hall ; Betha or Bela waterfall, one of the Catadupæ of Camden ; Black Dub, at Crosby Gill, the source of the Lyvennate ; Brough Well, formerly much resorted to, and the Vicar of Brough had a diploma from the Pope to receive oblations from the pilgrims resorting to it ; Burneshead Well, reputed sacred ; Burton Well ; Claybarrow Heath, the source of the Winster ; Clifton Well, at which a great concourse of people assemble annually on May Day ; Eagle Crag, Borrowdale ; Gell Forth Spout, in Longlesdale, the fall about 100 yards in an unbroken sheet ; Gondsdikey, which continually casts up small silver-like spangles ; Grassmere Well ; Helvellyn Spring ; the side of the Kent is famous for petrifying springs that incrust vegetable bodies, one of them is called the "dropping well" ; Leven's Park Waterfall, one of the Catadupæ of Camden ; Mallerstang, the source of Eden ; Pate Hole, petrifying spring ; Ravenstonedale, the source of the Lune ; Shap Wells, one

called Auney Well, the other a petrifying well ; Ullswater, the commencement of the river Eamont ; Witherslack Holy Well, discovered to be medicinal in 1656.

Public Edifices.—Appleby Bridge ; County Gaol ; Free Grammar School, founded by Queen Elizabeth in 1574 ; Hospital, founded by Anne, Countess of Pembroke and Montgomery in 1653 ; House of Correction ; Market-house, erected in 1811 from a design by Mr. Smirke ; New Gaol, erected in 1771 ; Town Hall. Ashby School, founded in 1688 by Mr. George Smith. Bampton Free Grammar School, founded in 1623 by Dr. Thomas Sutton. Measand School, "Richard Wright founder [1711], Richard Law benefactor, 1713." Barton School, founded in 1649 by Drs. Gerard Langbaine, Lancelot Dawes, etc., Betham Bridge. Bulness Grammar School, built by contribution about 1637. Crosby Ravensworth Free School, founded about 1617. Heversham School, founded by Edward Wilson in 1613. Kendal Blue-coat School ; three Bridges ; Dispensary, commenced in 1782 ; Free Grammar School, endowed in 1525 by Adam Pennyngton, of Boston, rebuilt 1592 ; Hospital and Charity School, founded September 6, 1670, by Thomas Sandes ; Obelisk on Castle Law Hill, erected in 1788 in commemoration of the Restoration ; School of Industry, instituted in 1799 ; Town Hall rebuilt 1759 ; Workhouse, large and airy building. Kirkby Lonsdale Bridge, of singular beauty and very lofty ; Free Grammar School, founded in 1591 by Queen Elizabeth. Kirkby Stephen Free Grammar School, founded in 1556 by Thomas, Lord Wharton. Milthorpe Bridge over the Betha. Morland Free Grammar School, founded about 1780 by the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle. Old Hutton Free School, built in 1613 by Edward Milner. Orton Free Grammar School, founded about 1730 by subscription ; Greenholme School, founded in 1733 by George Gibson, gent. ; Tebay School, founded in 1670 by Robert Adamson, gent. Ravenstonedale Grammar School, founded in 1688 by Thomas Fothergill, B.D., rebuilt in 1758. Stanemore Chapel, built as a school-house in 1594. Stenkrith Bridge, over the Eden. Temple Sowerby Bridge, over the Eden, rebuilt in 1575, and again in 1748. Thrimby School, founded by Thomas Fletcher in 1681. Waitby Free School, founded by James Highmore about 1630. Winandermere School, built about 1637. Winton Grammar School, founded in 1659 by Rev. William Morland.

Seats.—Lowther Castle, Earl of Lonsdale, Lord Lieutenant ; Appleby Castle, Earl of Thanet, Hereditary Sheriff ; Askham Hall, Earl of Lonsdale ; Belfield, Bowness, Mrs. Fleming ; Bratha Hall, Ambleside, J. Harden, Esq. ; Brough Castle, Earl of Thanet ; Brougham Hall, Henry Brougham, Esq., M.P. ; Brig Steer Park, near Sizergh, T. Strickland, Esq. ; Calgarth, Mrs. Watson ; Carleton Hall, Right Hon. Thomas Wallace ; Casterton Hall, W. Carus Wilson, Esq., M.P. ; Croft Lodge, Ambleside, Mrs. Pritchard ;

Curwen's Island, H. Curwen, Esq. ; Dallam Tower, D. Wilson, Esq. ; Dalton Hall, Edmund Hornby, Esq. ; Elleray, J. Wilson, Esq. ; Ferney Green, Bowness, R. Greaves, Esq. ; Grimes Hill, W. Moore, Esq. ; Harley Castle, Sir Philip Musgrave, Bart. ; Holly Hill, Bowness, H. Bellar, Esq. ; Howgill Castle, Earl of Thanet ; Leven's Park, Hon. Colonel Howard ; Meaburn Hall, Earl of Lonsdale ; Oddendale, John Gibson, Esq. ; Orest Hall, J. Braithwaite, Esq. ; Orton Hall, late John Burn, Esq. ; Pendragon Castle, Earl of Thanet ; Rayrigg, Rev. J. Fleming ; Rydal Hall, Sir Richard Fleming, Bart. ; Rydal Mount, W. Wordsworth, Esq. ; Shaw End, A. Shepherd, Esq. ; Skirsgill, Hugh Parkin, Esq. ; Stors Hall, Bowness, J. Bolton, Esq. ; Summerfield, T. Tatham, Esq. ; Wharton Hall, Earl of Lonsdale ; Whittingdon Hall, T. Greene, Esq. ; Wreston Hall, Rev. Mr. Strickland.

Produce. — Sheep ; cattle ; corn ; fish ; fine hams ; copper ; gypsum ; limestone ; freestone ; porphyry ; granite ; basalt, or whinstone ; lead ; coal ; and slate.

Manufactures. — Coarse woollen cloth, called Kendal cottons ; slates ; tanned hides ; gunpowder ; hoops ; charcoal ; wool ; stockings ; silk and worsted waistcoat pieces ; flannels ; hats and paper.

HISTORY.

First or second century, Marius, King of the Britons, defeated Roderic, or Rothinger, a Pictish general from Scythia, upon the mountain now called Stanemore, in memory whereof Reicrois, or Rerercros (a red or royal cross), was erected, and from him Westmoreland takes its name.

A.D. 791, Ethred slew Elf and Edwin, sons of Elfwald, at Winandermere.

A.D. 946, Edmund wasted Cumbria, and having put out the eyes of the two sons of Dunmail, gave that province to Malcolm, King of Scotland. Dun-mel-wrays is supposed to have been erected in memory of it, or as a boundary of Dunmail's kingdom.

A.D. 1175, King William of Scotland surprised Appleby Castle, and utterly destroyed the town. In this inroad he sacked Brough Castle.

A.D. 1388, the Scots by a second conflagration destroyed the town of Appleby.

A.D. 1617, James I. magnificently entertained at Brougham Castle for three days in August on his return from his last journey to Scotland.

A.D. 1641, Anne, Countess of Pembroke, "in spite of her disloyal Simpleton," fortified Appleby Castle for the King, and gave the government of it to Sir Philip Musgrave, who held out till after the Battle of Marston Moor.

A.D. 1645, in this year probably Colonel Briggs besieged Holme

House, Winandermere, eight or ten days, until the raising of the siege of Carlisle brought Mr. H. Philipson, of Crooke, to whom it belonged, to the relief of his brother Robert of Holme House. The next day Mr. Robert with three or four companions rode to Kendal to take revenge of the adverse party there; he passed the watch and rode into the church, in expectation of finding Colonel Briggs, but did not succeed. Robert was unhorsed by the guards on his return, but being relieved by his companions by a desperate charge, he vaulted into the saddle without a girth, and, killing a sentinel, galloped away. For this and other adventures he obtained the appellation of "Robin the Devil."

A.D. 1648, October 16, Appleby Castle surrendered to the Parliament under Lieutenant-General Ashton.

A.D. 1651, General T. Harrison came to Appleby with his forces. The war was then hot in Scotland, and many places in this county were full of soldiers. King Charles II. came to Crosby Gill, where he halted and dined. He partook of the waters of Black Dub.

A.D. 1663, a party of the friends of the Commonwealth met on Kabergh Rigg, and endeavoured to stir up an insurrection against the Restoration; but being dispersed by the militia, Captain Atkinson, a turbulent republican, was taken and hanged at Appleby in 1664.

A.D. 1745, at Clifton Moor a smart action took place between the rebel forces and the Duke of Cumberland, in which the former were driven from their advantageous post. When the rebels, to the number of 110, entered Kendal, they were attacked by the inhabitants with clubs, stones, and anything they could get, which greatly harassed them.

S. T.

[1825, *Part II.*, pp. 513-516.]

EMINENT NATIVES.

Addison, Lancelot, learned Dean of Lichfield, Crosby Ravensworth, 1632.

Airey, Dr. Adam, principal of Edmund Hall, one of the founders of Barton School in 1649, Barton.

Airey, Christopher, 1609.

Airey, Dr. Henry, author of some Calvinistic works, Kentmere, 1560.

Appleby, Roger de, Bishop of Ossory (ob. 1404).

Appleby, Thomas de, Bishop of Carlisle (ob. 1395).

Askew, Anthony, eminent physician, Kendal, 1722.

Bainbridge, Christopher, Cardinal Archbishop of York, poisoned at Rome, 1514, Barton.

Barlow, Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Lincoln, Orton, 1607.

Barwick, John, D.D., eminent divine and loyalist, Witherslack, 1612.

Barwick, Peter, M.D., brother of the above, whose life he wrote in elegant Latin, Witherslack, 1619.

Braithwaite, Richard, the well-known facetious and eccentric author of "Drunken Barnaby," Burneshead (ob. 1673).

Buckle, Sir Cuthbert, Lord Mayor of London in 1593, Stanemore.

Burn, Dr. Richard, author of "Ecclesiastical Law," etc., Winton (ob. 1785).

Chambers, Ephraim, author of the "Encyclopædia," Kendal (ob. 1740).

Chambré, Sir Allan, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, Abbot Hall, near Kendal (ob. 1823).

Clifford, George, Earl of Cumberland, Brougham Castle, 1558.

Close, Nicholas, Bishop of Lichfield, Birbeck (ob. 1453).

Crackenthorpe, Richard, controversial divine, Strickland, 1567.

Dawes, Lancelot, one of the founders of Barton School, and Prebendary of Carlisle, Barton, 1580.

Fothergill, Dr. George, principal of St. Edm. Hall, Ox., Lockholme in Ravenstonedale, 1705.

Fothergill, Thomas, benefactor to his native parish, Brounber in Ravenstonedale.

Garnett, Dr. Thomas, physician and natural philosopher, Caster-ton, 1766.

Gibson, Edmund, the learned and esteemed Bishop of London, High Knype, 1669.

Gibson, Thomas, uncle of the Bishop, and son-in-law of Protector Richard Cromwell, High Knype.

Gibson, William, self-taught mathematician of the most wonderful powers, Bolton, 1720.*

Gilpin, Bernard, eminent divine and reformer, called the "Apostle of the North," Kentmire, 1517.

Hudson, William, one of the earliest Linnæan botanists in England, 1730.

Johnson, Samuel, eminent divine, 1649.

Kendal, Richard de, excellent grammarian (flor. temp. Henry VI.).

Lancaster, Dr. William, Provost of Queen's, Oxford, and one of the founders of Barton School, Sockbridge.

Langbaine, Gerard, linguist, antiquary, scholar, and one of the founders of Barton School, Barton Kirke, about 1608.

Langhorne, Dr. John, the poet, and brother of William, Kirkby Stephen, 1735.

Langhorne, William, brother of above, and joint translator of "Plutarch's Lives," Winton.

Mill, Dr. John, editor of the Greek New Testament, Harderdale in Shap, 1645.

Monkhouse, Dr. Richard, eminent divine, Winton.

Morton, Charles, learned physician and antiquary, 1716.

* A very curious account of him may be seen in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. lxi., p. 1062.

Otway, Sir John, eminent lawyer, Middleton.

Philipson, Robert, for his military achievements nicknamed "Robin the Devil," Crook Hall.

Potter, Barnaby, called the "Puritanical Bishop of Carlisle," Kendal, 1578 or 1579.

Potter, Christopher, nephew of above, and loyal divine (who sent his plate to the King, saying he would drink as Diogenes did, in the hollow of his hand, before the King should want), Kendal, 1591.

Robertson, Joseph, a critic of celebrity, learning, and industry, High Knype, 1726.

Saunderson, Randal, divine and benefactor to his native village, Reagill.

Shaw, Dr. Thomas, author of "Travels in Barbary and the Levant," a work of high celebrity, Kendal, 1692.

Smith, George, founder of the school in his native parish, Asby.

Smith, Dr., Bishop of Carlisle, cousin of the above, Asby.

Smith, John, a divine, particularly versed in Septentrional literature and in antiquities, Lowther, 1659.

Stephenson, Rev. William, benefactor to his native place, Bampton.

Strickland, William de, Bishop of Carlisle, Great Strickland, 1396.

Sutton, Dr. Thomas, benefactor to his native parish of Bampton, Sutton Gill, in that parish.

Viteripont, Thomas de, Bishop of Carlisle, 1255, Appleby.

Walker, Adam, natural and experimental philosopher, Windermere.

Walker, William, lecturer on astronomy, son of above, Kendal, 1766.

Wastal, Simon, learned author of "Microbiblion, or an Epitome of the Bible in Verse," 1629, Wastelhead in Shap.

Watson, Richard, excellent and learned Bishop of Llandaff, Heversham, 1737.

Wharton, Sir George, Baronet, astronomer and loyalist, Kendal (ob. 1681).

Whitehead, George, learned and zealous Quaker, Newbigg, about 1638.

Wilson, John, celebrated botanist, originally a stocking-knitter, Kendal (ob. about 1750).

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS.

This county has little or no advantage from navigable rivers.

At Ambleside have been found innumerable Roman antiquities. Part of a Roman Bridge still remains.

At Appleby, in 1598, the plague raged. The castle was the residence of the Clifford family, of whom the high-spirited Countess of Pembroke frequently resided here. Here is a copy of the great family picture, the original of which is at Skipton Castle, co. York. There are four half-lengths of the Countess in the drawing-room.

Here is also preserved the magnificent suit of armour worn by the Earl of Cumberland in the tilt-yard as champion to his Royal mistress Elizabeth; and his horse-armour of equal splendour lies by it. In St. Lawrence Church are some noble monuments to the Cliffords, among which is one to the Countess of Pembroke. The school has produced a number of eminent characters in Church and State. It has also furnished nearly half the students on the foundation of Queen's College, Oxford. Upon the front of a little building of stone erected by Reginald Bainbrigg, the friend of Camden, in 1602, then master of the School, were placed by him stones to the number of twenty-four, having Roman inscriptions.

The chancel of Asby Church is singularly separated from the nave by two arches.

In Askham Church are several old monuments, and a stone coffin has been found of the date 1346.

Bampton Vicarage house was rebuilt at the expense of the celebrated and very learned Bishop Gibson, who also erected a monument in the church to his father and mother, with a modest Latin inscription. In the Free Grammar School, besides an innumerable list of eminent characters, were educated Dr. John Mill, famous for his edition of the New Testament; and Bishop Gibson. Bishop Law obtained his classical rudiments at Measand School.

In Betham Church are the monuments of Sir Thomas de Betham and lady. Of this parish was vicar Mr. William Hutton, who wrote a folio book of collections for a history of the parish, which he deposited in the vestry for the information of posterity, with blank pages to be filled up as materials should occur.

The windows of Brough Church were formerly full of extraordinary painted glass.

At Brougham many Roman antiquities have been discovered. Brougham Hall, for its beautiful prospects, has been called the "Windsor of the North."

Calgarth was the property of the learned Bishop Watson, who added greatly to the natural beauties of the estate. Some of the rooms of the old hall have remains of their former elegance. Amongst the spirits which haunted these melancholy walls was one which had the custody of two skulls, which could neither be broken to pieces, or carried to any place, but their guardian would be able to reunite them, or recover them to their dormitory on one of the window-sills.

Cross-fell is reported to have been formerly called "Fiends' Fell," from evil spirits haunting its top, till St. Austin erected there a cross and an altar, by which he broke their haunts; hence its present name.

At the south end of the village of Eamont is a curious circle, consisting of a high dyke of earth and a deep foss within, commonly called "Arthur's Round Table." Various are the conjectures respecting it.

Farlton Knot is said to bear a strong resemblance in form to the rock of Gibraltar.

At Heversham Free Grammar School were educated Bishop Watson, Ephraim Chambers, author of the "*Encyclopædia*," Bishop Preston, and many others. Bishop Watson's father was headmaster forty years, and educated Chambers. He was also born here, as were his father, grandfather, etc. In the church is interred the mother of Ephraim Chambers.

Kendal was one of the first provincial towns which printed a newspaper. Among the eminent men educated at the Free Grammar School may be mentioned Bishop Law, Dr. Fothergill, and Dr. Shaw, the celebrated traveller.

At Kentmere Hall flourished the Gilpin family, of whom was Bernard Gilpin, "the Apostle of the North." It is a tower-like edifice, under a mountain browed with mighty crags. When it was building, the "Cork lad of Kentmere," a barbarian of the name of Herd, lifted the chimney-beam of the kitchen into its place, 6 feet from the earth; it still remains, and is 30 feet long, and 13 inches by 12½ inches thick. At the age of forty-two this man killed himself with the Herculean task of tearing up trees by the roots.

In Kirkby Lonsdale Church was a fine alabaster monument to one of the Middletons, temp. Henry VIII. On the south porch was formerly a curious inscription respecting its erection, etc. Of this parish was vicar one George Buchanan, a Scotchman driven out of Scotland for refusing the covenant, and suffered greatly from the Parliamentarians. At the Free Grammar School was educated Mr. Bell of the Chancery Bar.

At Lowther College were educated the Earl of Selkirk, the late Duke of Athol. The college was converted into a manufactory for most beautiful carpets, etc., of strength and lustre little inferior to those of Persia, intended chiefly for the owner's use, but a few were sold from £63 to £105. The church contains several tombs of the Lowther family.

Millthorpe is the only town in the county visited by the tide, which flows from the estuary of the Kent up the river Betha, making this the only seaport town in the county.

Of Morland Dr. Brown, author of the "*Essay on the Characteristics*," was vicar.

Newbiggen Hall stands in a woody, sequestered vale. It is a low, unique building, with a poetical inscription over its front door. The church is small, and contains but little remarkable. In one of the windows is a monk with a pastoral staff. Upon the rocks, at a place called *Craw-dun-dale*, were formerly found characters and inscriptions, now obliterated and mouldered away. Camden mentions one or two, but Burn doubts their authenticity.

Old Hutton Free School has a library of several hundred volumes established in 1757 by Dr. Bray and associates.

Near Pendragon Castle is a well which commemorates a piece of history respecting Uter Pendragon. It is said the treacherous Saxons, who dared not face him in the field, flung poison into the well. He drank of this, his favourite spring, and with a hundred of his courtiers fell victims to the Saxon villainy.

One of the customs at Ravenstonedale is very peculiar. If any tenant being of the age of sixteen die, not having a child born in wedlock, and without a will attested by at least four tenants of the manor, his estate escheats to the lord. The Earl of Lonsdale offered to enfranchise the tenants, but such was their attachment to ancient customs as to refuse the offer.

Rerecross on Stanemore is the boundary between Westmoreland and Yorkshire. Only a fragment of it now remains. At the neighbouring turnpike house is a cylindrical stone with "COH . V.," probably a Roman military.

Of Shap Abbey became tenants at the Dissolution the Hoggerd family, ancestors of the inimitable Hogarth.

At Sizergh Hall are several excellent portraits, and the tapestry and carvings are exceedingly curious.

At Spying How, Troutbeck, there was a large heap of stones called "the Raise," which contained a kistvaen full of men's bones, and another called "Woundal Raise," supposed British sepulchres.

Ullswater, or Ousemere, when the day is uniformly overcast, and the air perfectly still, like many other lakes, has its surface dappled with a smooth oily appearance, which is called a "Keld."

Of the Pearsons of Whinfell, the learned Dr. John Pearson, Bishop of Chester, was descended. The forest was famous for its prodigious oaks, one of them nearly 300 years old. The hart's-horn tree, which grew by the wayside near Hornby Hall, had its name from a pair of horns hung up in it about 1333 or 1334, after a memorable chase. The stag was started by a greyhound, and after chasing it to a considerable distance and back again, the stag vaulted the park paling, but instantly died. The dog, in attempting to clear it, fell backwards and expired. One of these horns were broken out of the tree in 1648, and the other in 1658. On the east side of the park is Julian's tower, celebrated for being the residence of the mistress of Roger de Clifford, temp. Edward III.

Winandermere is the greatest standing water in England. On Longholme Island is a remarkable echo. Rayrigg Hall is said to resemble Ferney, the seat of Voltaire on the Lake of Geneva. The church contains monuments and inscriptions to the Philipsons of Calgarth and other eminent families in the neighbourhood. Its chancel window belonged to Furness Abbey. It consists of seven compartments, representing the Crucifixion in the third, fourth, and fifth.

In the second is St. George; in the sixth, St. Catharine, and in the seventh, two mitred abbots and two monks. The colouring is very fine.

At Winton Free Grammar School the author of Burn's "Justice," etc., was educated. One of the rooms of the hall is hung with very beautiful tapestry; and amongst the pictures is a fine one of the late Countess of Desmond.

Upon Wreynose Hill are placed the shire-stones, in a triangle a foot from each other, where Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Lancashire meet in a point.

S. T.

Public Schools in Westmoreland.

[1823, *Part II.*, pp. 323-325.]

By the Parliamentary Inquiry in 1819 respecting the education of the lower classes in England, it was found that Westmoreland was the best educated county in the kingdom. The following is a brief account of schools with endowments in this county; some of them are in high repute for classical requirements, and have produced many eminent characters both in Church and State.

Appleby, founded by Queen Elizabeth in 1574, and endowed by her with £5 10s. 8d. a year, payable out of the rents accruing to the Crown within the county of Westmoreland. Numerous benefactors have since contributed to increase its revenues. The amount of the master's salary is now estimated at about £300 a year. This school has valuable exhibitions to Queen's College, Oxford.

Ambleside, in the parish of Windermere, founded in 1723 by John Kelswick, of Ambleside, and endowed by him with an estate at Ambleside.

Ashby, built by George Smith, citizen of London, a native of this parish, in 1688, and endowed by him with £1 a year. Dr. Thomas Smith, his cousin, and Bishop of Carlisle, and a native of this parish, left £100 for the benefit of this school.

Bampton, founded in 1623 by Thomas Sutton, D.D., a native of this parish, and Rector of St. Saviour's, Southwark, and endowed by him with £500, which was expended in the purchase of tithes of corn and hay in the parish of Bampton. In 1724 the Rev. William Stephenson, a native of this parish, and Rector of Laxton, in the county of Nottingham, bequeathed the sum of £150 equally between the church and school at Bampton, which was laid out in the purchase of lands at Bomby in this parish. In 1816 John Noble, Esq., of London, a native of this parish, gave £500 in the 3 per cents., the interest of which to be paid to the master for the time being.

Barton, founded in 1649 by Dr. Gerard Langbaine and Dr. Lancelot Dawes, and who, with the assistance of Dr. Adam Airey, Dr. William Lancaster, and a contribution among the parishioners, endowed it liberally. The money with which this school was endowed is now

invested in a dwelling-house and field at Barton, an estate at Slowgill in the county of York, and another at Firbank in Westmoreland.

Bolton, in the parish of Morland, founded in 1721, and endowed with £190, given and bequeathed by various individuals at different times.

Brough, founded in 1506 by John Brunskill, and at the time of the dissolution of monasteries (1535) £7 11s. 4d. was directed to be paid to the schoolmaster by the King's auditors out of the rents and revenues which formerly belonged to it as a chapel, which had been endowed by the above founder and other benefactors.

Burton, founded about the year 1657, and endowed by John Hutton with the residue of the rents and profits of an estate at Hindon, in the parish of Cockfield, in the county of Durham, after paying thereout £2 a year to the poor in the parish of Burton, and £1 a year to the poor in the parish of Cockfield. A subscription amounting to £117 was also raised for increasing the endowment of this school.

Crosby Ravensworth, founded about the year 1630 by the Rev. William Willan, vicar of this parish, who gave £100 to it, which was afterwards laid out in land. In 1784 the school was rebuilt at the expense of William Dent, Esq., of London, a native of this parish, who, with his brother Robert and Anne Viscountess of Andover, contributed to increase its revenues by the gift of £500, which was invested in the South Sea Annuities.

Dufton, founded by Christopher Walker in 1670, and endowed by him with the interest of £40, and by Michael Todd with £4 a year, payable out of lands at Knowle Green, in the parish of Staines, Middlesex.

Greenholme, in the parish of Orton, founded in 1733 by George Gibson, Esq., and endowed by him with £400 original Bank Stock.

Heversham, founded in 1613 by Edward Wilson, Esq., of Heversham Hall, and endowed by him with the yearly rent-charge of £21 3s. 10d. issuing out of certain burgage messuages and tenements in Kendal, and a rent charge of £3 a year issuing out of a field in Strickland Ketel called Dawson's Close. In 1773 the sum of £230 was raised by subscription by the Rev. Henry Wilson, vicar of the parish, for the better endowment of this school, which was laid out in the purchase of a dwelling-house, out-houses, and two fields in Heversham. This school has several exhibitions both to Oxford and Cambridge.

Kaber, in the parish of Kirkby Stephen, founded by Thomas Waller about the year 1680, and endowed by him with £133. And in 1727 Miles Munkhouse gave £5; and in 1744 George Petty, of Kalver, gave £20 for the benefit of this school.

Kendal, founded about the year 1525 by Adam Pennynghton, of Boston, and rebuilt in 1592. Edward VI., Queen Mary, and Queen

Elizabeth were benefactors to it ; their respective grants, amounting together to £19 5s. 4d. yearly, are payable out of the Crown revenues in Westmoreland. Mr. Richard Jackson (the schoolmaster here, and removed to Appleby) gave £100 to be applied to the benefit of the schoolmaster. Dr. Airay was another benefactor. There are several exhibitions to Queen's College, Oxford, for scholars from this school.

Kirkby Lonsdale, founded by letters patent granted by Queen Elizabeth in 1591, and endowed by Mr. Godsolve, of Newton, in the parish of Whittington, with £100, to which was added another £100 raised among the parishioners, with which £200 was purchased of Mr. Tenant a rent-charge of £20 a year, payable out of the manors of Bedale and Scotton, in the county of York. Lady Elizabeth Curwen, heiress of the family of Carus, gave the ground upon which the school was built, and also certain parcels of land to the same, lying near to a place called the "Biggins." In 1628 the school was rebuilt at the expense of Mr. Henry Wilson, of London, a native of this parish, who also gave £120 for the support of an usher here, which was laid out upon the demesne lands of Thurland Castle, in the parish of Tunstal. In 1808, when the enclosure of the common lands in the manor of Kirkby Lonsdale took place, an allotment was awarded to this school. There are exhibitions at Christ's College, Cambridge, and at Queen's College, Oxford, for scholars educated here.

Kirkby Stephen, founded in 1566 by Thomas Lord Wharton, and endowed by him and others with various benefactions. There are exhibitions both to Oxford and Cambridge for scholars educated here.

Lowther, founded in 1638 by Richard Lowther, Esq., and his nephew, Sir John Lowther, and endowed by this Richard Lowther, Esq., with £100, and by this Sir John Lowther with "one piece of ground in the Slacke." A rent-charge of £10 a year is paid to the master from the priory of Lambly, in Northumberland, supposed to have been purchased with the above £100 given by Richard Lowther, Esq. The school was built at Lowther in 1640, and in the year 1810 was removed and rebuilt near the village of Hackthorp, by the present William, Earl of Lonsdale.

Measand, in the parish of Bampton, founded in 1711 by Mr. Richard Wright, and endowed by him with a messuage and lands at Nether Scales, in the parish of Orton. In 1723 Richard Law, of Cawdale, in this parish (great-uncle of Bishop Law), gave a garth, in which the school stands.

Morland, founded in the year 1780 by the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle, who endowed it with an estate in the township of Morland.

Orton, built in 1730, and rebuilt in 1808, was originally endowed

with an acre of land in Orton Highfield by Agnes Holme, and afterwards Robert Wilson gave £5, Thomas Addison £5, and Henry Bland £10 for the benefit of this school; and in 1781 Frances Wardale bequeathed £400 to it, which was laid out by trustees in the purchase of houses and lands at Orton.

Ravenstonedale, founded about the year 1668, and endowed by Thomas Fothergill, B.D., Master of St. John's College in Cambridge (a native of this parish), and others of his name and kindred. With the money given by the founders and others were purchased three estates for the sum of £447, viz., with £140 was purchased 84 acres of land at Blaterne, called Horngill, which the trustees improperly sold in 1703 to Thomas Pattinson, of Breeks, subject to the trifling rent-charge thereout of £6 a year. Another estate was purchased at Foxellrigg, in the parish of Sedbergh, for £112, which the trustees in like manner sold, subject to the inadequate rent-charge of £5 a year. Another estate was purchased at Bowsfield, in the parish of Orton, for £195, which remains for the benefit of the school. A rent-charge of £5 a year was also left to this school by Philip Lord Wharton, payable out of an estate at Raine, in the parish of Orton.

Stanemore, in the parish of Brough, founded in 1594 by Cuthbert Buckle, who by his will left £8 a year, payable out of his estate at Spittle. In 1699 Thomas, Earl of Thanet, repaired the chapel, and built a school-house near it, and enclosed a large track of waste land for the benefit and profit of the curate and schoolmaster.

Swindale, in the parish of Shap, founded in 1703, by Thomas Baxter, of Truss Gap in this place, who gave to it an estate consisting of between 200 or 300 acres of land, called Wastdale Foot, adjoining the Spa of Shapwells. The trustees, in 1750, improperly sold it to John Brown, of Wastdale Head, subject to a rent-charge of £10 a year; he sold it, along with his estate of Wastdale Head, to the late Sir James Lowther, who, about the year 1775, from some cause or other, refused the payment of this £10 a year, and withheld it during his life; but when the present William Earl of Lonsdale, came to the Lowther estates in 1802, he agreed with the trustees henceforth to allow £25 a year out of the Wastdale Foot estate, instead of paying up the arrears due from his predecessor.

Tebay, in the parish of Orton, founded by Robert Adamson, Esq., in the year 1672, and endowed by him with estates at Ormondil Biggin and Blacket Bottom, in Grayrigg.

Thrimby, in the parish of Morland, founded in 1681 by Thomas Fletcher, Esq., and endowed by him with a rent-charge of £10 a year, issuing out of his messuage and lands called Bryham Tenement and High and Low Sandriggs.

Waitby, in the parish of Kirkby Stephen, founded in 1680 by Mr. James Highmore, citizen of London, and a native of this place,

and endowed by him with £400, which was laid out in purchasing an estate called Cantley Thwaite, in the parish of Sedbergh.

Winton, in the parish of Kirkby Stephen, built in 1659, at the expense of the Rev. William Morland and other principal parishioners, and endowed in 1681 by Robert Waller, of Winton, with divers parcels of land in the neighbouring township of Kaber; and in 1722 Richard Munkhouse, Esq., of Winton, gave the sum of £100 for the benefit of the school at Winton on condition that the nomination of the schoolmaster should be vested in his family. H. L.

Bolton.

[1780, *Part I.*, pp. 130-132.]

The following inscription, viz. :



is on a stone above an old doorway on the outside of the north wall of the chapel of Bolton. The characters and points are both exactly represented.

The places marked ● are convex, where probably some letter or letters are defaced. And those marked - - - - are long spaces, where no characters appear.

The figures (see Plate) are carved upon a stone joining to the inscription.

The size of these two stones is not specified, any more than the time when they were first noticed; and, whether owing to any accident, as plaster falling off, it seems, however, to be quite a modern discovery, as Dr. Burn, whose "History of Cumberland" was published in 1777, mentions nothing of it.

Bolton Chapel stands in the parish of Morland, about four miles north of Appleby, to which it is adjoining, on the western bank of the river Eden, in Cumberland.

To begin with the carving. . . . I see two combatants, seemingly cased in armour from head to feet; the helmets of both are remarkably pointed at top, and both plainly have stirrups, which seem to grow out of the belly of the horses, without any the least appearance of stirrup-leathers. The horses, too, of both seem completely cased in leather at least, as they exhibit no eyes, mouths, ears or manes; but as their tails, too, seem equally covered (looking more like those of large rams), perhaps the uniformity of their whole appearance

should be charged to the badness of the carving ; though I think not, no more than to being worn smooth by time and weather ; the stirrups might be fastened to this case, or shell. One bears on his left arm an oval shield, which, I believe, is an uncommon shape ; his right hand is raised level with his shoulder, and he pushes a tilting-spear (I venture to call it so from its swelling bigger in the middle) into the neck of his adversary, who lifts up his left hand, and lowers the banner in his right hand, both seemingly in token of yielding. It is observable that there is no appearance of his having a shield, nor has his banneret any apparent head or spike to it, and the staff is uniformly slender throughout. This, one should suppose, was the representation of some formal combat, but in these it was usual to be very exact in seeing that the combatants' arms were the same in size, etc., and from the cut or indented shape of the banneret we must conclude that it is the gonfannon, or ecclesiastical banner. Such, I suppose, was St. Cuthbert's at Durham, which, besides appearing in processions, was sometimes advanced against the Scots with good success. But if so, this must be the champion, Vower, advocate or avoué of the Church in some dispute ; and that the fight should refer to somewhat of this kind is natural enough to think, from the place where it is fixed. But we may well wonder why a defeat of a son militant of the Church should be represented.

If I have made but little out of the carving, I am afraid I shall come off still worse with the inscription. In it I observe two crosses, + +. Combatants crossed themselves before they began to engage, and children before they ventured upon their A B C, hence called the Christ's-cross-row, and the sign of it is still prefixed as a mark or direction to them in their hornbooks. The stops seem to be :: and ; ; perhaps they were at first all ;, but however that may be, they probably all mean only one and the same thing, the separation of words barely. There is also a comma twice, and both times after O. Of the letters themselves it is observable that two very different A's, viz., *Ȧ* and *A*, and two E's, viz., *Ē* and *E*, and at least two T's, if the first word of the fourth line ends like *justitie*, *mæsütie*, *tristitie*, etc., are employed in this short inscription. The two first words, as I venture to call them, seem exceedingly like those that compose the last line, except a small horizontal stroke in the middle of a perpendicular stem of the first letter, which perhaps was not visible in the correspondent one of the last line, or was overlooked. If it ought not to be at all in the first letter, then one might read, "DominuS LVR RENDE WERE DVN ASHVM MILES DE BO ELTVN." *Đ*, the first letter, may be supposed to be the Saxon *Đ*, but that is, I believe, always formed with the horizontal stroke of equal length on both sides of the perpendicular one, which is not so here, and if it was, no more insight into the meaning is gained.

Mr. Burn, in his "History of Cumberland," p. 454, informs us

that Boeltun was one of the four ancient ways of writing Bolton. If it should be thought that the copy does not justify supposing that more than a single letter is wanting in "MES," we should consider that it might be wrote "MLES," the I being included in L, either thus *ɛ*, or thus *E*, differing only in length. But a still greater difficulty with me is the knight being loaded with three names, at a time when very great people had often no more than a short monosyllable, as Grip, Girt, etc. If we go another way to work, and suppose the first letter to be an *E*, then, considering that not only the next parish church of Appleby is styled in record "*Ecclesia Sti Laurentii de Appleby*," and that the parish church of Morland, in which parish our chapel stands, is dedicated to the same saint (Burn, vol. i., p. 443—though our chapel is to All Saints, see Ecton's "*Valor*"), we might be tempted to read "*Ecclesia DES LaVRRENDE*," the last letter but one being a mistake for C or T, or else should be separated, and form DE. But neither does this satisfy, for though I have turned over Mr. Burn's two volumes very carefully on this occasion, in which there are some thousands of persons and place-names mentioned, yet I can find none that one can suppose to be here meant. Nor does the baronetage article, "*Lorraine of Northumberland*," afford any variety or assistance. Mr. Burn mentions (vol. i., p. 51) Estate of Loring and Sir Nigel Loring (vol. i., p. 153), but he has no Weredun or Verdon, but Warton, Wartun, Wherton, Quherton (pp. 1, 11, 12, 36, 39, 41, 62, 234, 264, 558). There is said to be a Wardon or Wardrew in Northumberland. Heylin's "*Help to History*," p. 436, No. 114, barely mentions a Baron Verdon, who is probably no more ours than his Baron Leidurne (p. 445, No. 275) has anything to do with the middle of our fifth line. Mr. Burn has a Laborne (vol. i., pp. 143, 144), and he likewise informs us ("*Cumberland*," vol. i., p. 420) that Axham was anciently wrote in the most authentic instruments ASCVM, or ASCOM. But our H is so remarkably large and plain that it cannot be mistaken for a K. To go on, I cannot desire anybody to read "*Anno A Reparata S a lute*," as I see no date, except CV be one and M omitted. The middle word of line four, if other things conspired kindly, might tempt one to read "*MVRum*," to commemorate the building of the very wall, as "*Hanc fenestram fecit*," etc. (Burn, vol. i., p. 75). The fifth line, if an antiquary could be other than a sad creature, he would think was designed for Lilliburlaro, and that the usual "*ORATe prO a Ni M*" was intended to follow. But when in so many suppositions not a single one seems plausible it is time to give up, and express one's wishes that others may only not be misled by anything here said, as perhaps they would have done better if left entirely to themselves, instead of being put on a wrong scent; and I assure them, when they make all clear, as they will do who settle the reading rightly and truly, that I shall be pleased to see how

easily and luminously they proceed on where I could not see a step before me, nor even where I was.

Great Musgrave.

[1843, *Part II.*, pp. 571-573.]

The church of Great Musgrave is celebrated as the scene of the early labours of William Paley, some of whose justly-appreciated works were written in the parsonage adjoining. More recently it was marked by the ministry of the Rev. John Bowstead, B.D., the uncle and preceptor of the late Bishop of Lichfield. This venerable "Father of the Church" regularly performed his parochial duties until near the age of ninety, and died on November 1, 1841.

Musgrave gave its name to the family who resided there for several ages, and finally settled at Eden Hall in Cumberland, which family is now represented by Sir George Musgrave, Bart. As to the church, it is of Norman foundation, the arch dividing the nave and aisle (although modernized) being of that period. The other parts are of the Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular periods, but there is nothing of importance to mark these differences of style, excepting the remains of the Decorated chancel screen, shown in the plate.

Previous to 1248 the church was appropriated to St. Mary's Abbey at York, but it was then transferred to the bishopric of Carlisle, saving a small pension to St. Mary's reserved out of its revenues.

There is a brass in the chancel ornamented with the four evangelists at the angles (in roundels), of the early Decorated period, to Thomas Ouds, who was Rector previous to 1298. On the north wall of the nave is a monument to the founder and endower of Musgrave Grammar School, the Rev. Septimus Collinson, Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, who was a native of this parish, and died January 24, 1827 (of whom a memoir will be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1827, part i., p. 178).

Externally there is nothing material to notice, but the churchyard formerly had several carved coffin-lids belonging to the Musgraves of ancient date. The counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland contain many, and there are some specimens engraved in Lysons's "Cumberland," but only one is now left at Musgrave, and that is built into the eastern wall of the church. When an inquiry was made after some others which were in existence here only some twenty years back, the quiet answer of the mason who "did the job" was that he had "mashed" them up and built the remains in the wall.

Over the chancel screen and walls are several garlands. These denote an ancient annual custom, which takes place in July, called "Rush-bearing," when the female children of the village go in procession to the church, and each deposits an offering of flowers, which remain there until the following year. . . .

The site of Musgrave Church is extraordinary, for instead of being in the village, which is about a quarter of a mile distant from the river Eden, on a high-rising ground, it is actually within a few yards of the water's edge, and the rectory, a little westward of the church, is on still lower ground. Whenever, therefore, there is a flood, or "the beck is out," as the local term has it, a case often occurring suddenly, owing to the rapid fall of water from the fells in rainy weather, the church is sometimes, and the rectory generally, flooded. Thus many have been the unlucky inmates who have, on walking quickly downstairs on a dark morning, found themselves in two or three feet depth of water. The late rector was one of these.

Kendal.

[1800, *Part II.*, pp. 1129, 1130.]

The remains of Kendal Castle (of which Plate I. gives a north view) are seated on a fine hill on the east side of the river, opposite the town. The greatest part of the enclosure wall still remains, with three towers, two square and one round, but the upper parts and embattlements are entirely demolished. By a drawing of it in Mr. Tod Hunter's museum in this town, copied from one which was taken when the castle was in its original splendour and magnificence, it appears to be of Roman architecture, and probably raised by the first barons of Kendal. It is built of rough stone and cement, without any arms or ornaments, or even the least traces whereby to form any ideas. It is round, enclosing a court of the like form, and surrounded with a very deep moat, over which has been a drawbridge. Tradition says that Catharine Parr, consort to Henry VIII., lived here; and that it held out, and was battered down by Oliver Cromwell, but of the truth of this I am rather doubtful, and should be glad if any of your correspondents could clear up this point, as it seems by its present appearance to have been in ruins before Cromwell's time. There is a subterraneous passage betwixt the castle and an ancient house in the suburbs of the town, called the castle dairy, but it is now almost choked up, and appears to have been adapted to the purpose of carrying provisions to the garrison in time of danger.

Qu. Who was the first baron of Kendal? GEORGE HOPPER.

* * Dr. Burn ("History of Westmoreland," vol. ii., p. 83) gives no other account of this castle than that it is situated eastward from the town, on the opposite side of the river on a hill, with a fair and beautiful prospect. It was old and decayed even in Camden's time, and hath never since been repaired. There was a large demesne belonging to the castle, and a park with deer, which was disparked in 8 Queen Elizabeth. The administration of the affairs and revenues thereof seems to have been divided into two distinct stewardships, bearing the name to this day of Upper Graveship and Nether Grave-

ship.* Opposite to the castle, on the other side of the town, is a large artificial mount, called Castle Brow Hill, which from its name seems to have been intended as a fort. It is within sight of the Roman station at Watercrock, and is very like the exploratory mounts Mr. Horsley (p. 484) observes, which are to be seen in other places, especially near military ways. But whether it is Roman, and relates to the station, or more modern, and erected with a view to the castle, he does not take upon him to determine. The outermost of the two south aisles of the church is called Parr's aisle, which belonged to the Parrs, of Kendal Castle. Sir Thomas Parr, Knt., is commonly supposed to have been interred under a large tombstone without any inscription, there having been in the glass window over it, until demolished by Cromwell's soldiers, the following distich :

"Pray for the soul of Sir Tho. Parr, knight,
Who was squire of the body to Henry the Eighth."

But as it appears that he was buried in the Blackfriars Church in London, this stone most probably belonged to his father, Sir William, the arms on it being encircled with the Garter, and he was the only one of the family dignified with that honour except his grandson, William, Marquis of Northampton, who was buried at Warwick.

The first baron of Kendal was Ivo de Tailboys, brother to Fulk, Earl of Anjou, who came in with the Conqueror, and had from him that part of Lancashire which adjoins to Westmoreland, and so much of the latter county as is now called the Barony of Kendal, and hence this Ivo is styled the first Baron of Kendal. The barony was divided about the time of Henry III. between three sisters ; but the younger dying without issue, the other two possessed the whole under the distinct names of the Richmond fee and the Marquis and Lumley fee. The two first reverted to the Crown, and were last leased to the Lowther family. The third is in the family of the Howards, Earls of Suffolk and Berkshire. The family of Roos had a grant of the Marquis fee, and by marriage of their heiress it came to the Parrs in the reign of Richard III. William was created, 30 Henry VIII., Lord Parr and Ross of Kendal ; 35 Henry VIII., Baron of Hart, in Northamptonshire ; and 1 Edward VI., Marquis of Northampton ; and from thence that part of the barony which he held received the name of the Marquisate, which it still retains (Burn, *ib.*, pp. 30-63). The castle and its demesne lands, and two parks from various branches, came, 1765, to three private gentlemen of the county (*ib.*, pp. 30, 51).

* Query if equivalent to upper and lower lordship, from "grave," a title of honour among the Germans?—ED.

Kirkby Stephen.

[1754, pp. 230, 231.]

As I continued some days at Kirkby Stephen, in Westmoreland, I made some occasional observations, which, if you think proper, you may communicate to the public. S.

The etymon of the name is easily traced, as "hye" is the old Saxon word for a village, so that "Kirkby" is church town; and Kirkby Kendal and Kirkby Stephen signify the church towns of Kendal and Stephen.

This village is situated on the west bank of the river Eden, which takes its rise from Hughstat Mountain, about six miles higher up, on the skirts of Yorkshire, near the sources of the Swale and the Rother. This mountain is falsely called Hutton Morvel in most maps, and, indeed, none of these desolate places have been laid down with any tolerable degree of exactness.

The whole village consists of one single street, indifferently built, which lies nearly north and south, opening on Helbec Mountain at one extremity, and Wildbore at the other. There was once a fine market-place, 70 yards wide, and near 100 yards long, but by some strange inattention to public utility houses have been suffered to be built on it, and others afterwards to be built before them. The market is on Monday, and as the stocking manufacture supplies the principal trade, this traffic is the first at the market; it generally begins about six, and is over about eight in the morning. Though the situation of Kirkby Stephen is under bleak and barren mountains, yet the communication with several of their own dales, and with Yorkshire, along the river heads, affords a pretty considerable market, an advantage which Brough, near Stanemore, has now lost for want of such connection.

Three fairs are also held at this place, one on the first Thursday after Whitsuntide, chiefly to supply new-married persons with household goods and furniture; another on October 18, for cattle; and the third, which is much superior to the other two, on the Monday preceding Fastens Even (or Shrove Tuesday), called everywhere in the North Callop Monday, from an immemorial custom there of dining that day on eggs and collops.

The town has no magistrate, but a petty constable; the people in general are hospitable, their manners are plain and open, their constitution vigorous, and their apprehension quick.

As to the number of inhabitants, I am of opinion that the number of the licensed public-houses will generally give a tolerable estimate, if the proportion allowed be as one to ten; thus, Kirkby Stephen has 20, Appleby 29, Penrith 52, Carlisle near 70, Wigton 23. It will perhaps be necessary to alter this proportion with respect to towns that abound with manufacturers; but as these are easily dis-

tinguished, and the licensed houses all over the kingdom are necessarily known, estimates may be made without expense, and by a method which, as I remember, has not been thought of before.

The river Eden, which below Carlisle becomes the *pontem indignatus Araxes* of Virgil, admits here of all varieties of bridges, even of stepping-stones; and as the whole town, or rather whole county, is one bed of limestone, we may observe most amazing varieties in the cradle of the river, wrought by time and the constant force of a rapid current.

The church of Kirkby Stephen is low, and the porch looks but like a hole in a hermit's cell; the steeple is square, about 18 yards high, and has four bells of a considerable size, but not well proportioned to each other; the oldest bears date 1631, and the newest, which is also much the largest, 1749; the carpenter that new framed them when this was put up, having made his bargain for the old frame, it happened that as he was throwing down the last piece a nail which he had not perceived caught hold of his clothes, and the piece of timber, being heavy, drew him after it from a window 15 yards high, and dashed his brains out against some of the pieces he had thrown out before, an accident which was the more regretted as it happened on a Saturday night, when the man had just completed his job and was in haste to return with the money to his wife and family at Appleby.

The steeple is built on limestone rock, and there is a new geometrical staircase turned round a cylindrical column, which leads into a decent gallery at the west end of the church of good workmanship.

In the east end, near the chancel adjoining the south wall, is the burying-place of the Musgrave family; the inscription runs round the stone.

Near the middle, betwixt this and the cemetery of the Wharton family, is the effigy in stone of the famous Andrew Herclay, Earl of Carlisle, who was beheaded by Edward II., upon pretence of having betrayed the English army at Byland Abbey, near York, into the hands of Bruce, King of Scots; Edward himself escaped with great difficulty, and is said to have attained this nobleman only to transfer the ignominy of his own misconduct to another. The figure lies at length, with the head supported on a kind of urn or helmet, for it is much broken and disfigured, and the feet of a lion, without any inscription, tradition only having preserved the name; and his castle in this neighbourhood, though now in ruins, being still called Herclay Castle; to this estate the Musgrave family must have succeeded soon after, as their lease is between two and three hundred years old, and I think the Battle of Byland Abbey is generally fixed to 1326 by the Scotch annals.

In an aisle railed off near this monument, northward, is the vault

of the honourable family of Wharton, which is now extinct through the misconduct of the last possessor, remarkable for great natural abilities misapplied; there are some monuments, but the inscription was broken off at the east end; however, by the help of a friend, I joined the pieces, and found the whole as follows:

Round the rim on the side edge at top, the letters raised, with an effigy at large of himself and his two ladies:

"Thomas Whartonus jacet hic et utraque conjuns
Elinora suum hinc habet Anna locum,
En tibi terra tuum carnes ac ossa resumem
Coelos animas tu Deus alme tuum."

On the east end underneath:

"Gens Whartonus genus dat honores dextera victrix
In Scotos, Stapletona domus mihi quam dedit uxor
Elinora jacet ter bina prole parentem
Binam adimut teneris, binam juvenilibus annis
Fata mihi dat, nominavi bina superstes
Anna secunda uxor celebri est de gente Salopum."*

The reader will easily discover the puerility of the performance, as well with respect to the language as the poetry; but such as it is, it should be preserved in your Magazine, for a few years more will render it quite illegible on the stone.

This inscription has no date, but the person whom it commemorates is known to have been Governor of Carlisle in 33 Henry VIII., to have beaten the Scots with a very few men the year following, in conjunction with Sir William Musgrave, and to have taken Dumfries, for which services he was made Baron of Wharton, a place which I shall have occasion to mention in my next. He died A.D. 1568, in 10 Queen Elizabeth.

This family and that of the Musgraves were celebrated defenders of the northern frontiers for many years before the Scotch succession; the Wharton family liberally endowed Kirkby Stephen with a free school, but the salary is sequestered by the purchaser of the family estate till the trustees admit his choice of a master.

P.S.—There is also an aisle and vault of the Dalston family, but without any effigies, date, or character.

Ravenstonedale.

[1802, *Part II.*, p. 1186.]

Ravenstonedale Church, Westmoreland (Fig. 5) was rebuilt in 1745. The following is part of a monumental inscription in this edifice:

"Sacred to the memory of George Fothergill, D.D., and principal of St. Edmund's Hall in Oxford, where he lies interred, who departed this life Oct. 5, 1760, aged 54. He was a person of great parts and learning, and of most exemplary piety and virtue, which made his death greatly lamented."

* Shrewsbury.

Dr. George Fothergill was the son of a very respectable yeoman of this parish ; and his brother, Thomas Fothergill, was many years Provost of Queen's College, in Oxford, and died in 1796.

In this church is also the following inscription :

"To the memory of Anthony Fothergill, late of Brownber, whose natural talents and acquired knowledge rendered his character truly respectable. Though placed in a humble station, he distinguished himself by a firm adherence to the cause of Truth, Liberty, and rational Religion. His integrity of heart, social disposition, and uncommon abilities, gained him general esteem. He departed this (his chequered) life June 13, 1761, aged 75."

Mr. Anthony Fothergill published a work entitled "Wicked Christians Practical Atheists." From the inscription to his memory it might be inferred that he had imbibed Deistical notions. It is evident, however, from his writings that his disbelief of Christianity proceeded no farther than to a renunciation of the doctrines of original sin.

CLERICUS WESTMORIENSIS.

Shap.

[1823, *Part II.*, pp. 515-517.]

The abbey of Shap was transferred hither from Preston-Patrick, in the parish of Burton, near Kendal, probably for the sake of the situation, which is in a retired vale on the margin of the River Lowther, and about a mile west from Shap. It was founded by Thomas, son of Cospatrick. The following is an extract from his grant, which is without date, but it is supposed to have been made about the year 1119, and 20 Henry I. : "To all sons of our holy mother the Church, as well present as to come, who shall see or hear this present writing, Thomas, son of Cospatrick, sendeth greeting. Know ye, that I have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to God and St. Mary Magdalene, and the Canons of Preston, who are of the order Premonstratenses, in free, pure, and perpetual alms, for the health of the soul of myself, and my wife, and all my ancestors, one portion of my land in Preston in Kendal, to make a mansion of Canons, to wit, my whole demesne park below Lackslost," etc., proceeding to specify the boundaries of other lands and privileges granted.

A few years afterwards this Thomas, son of Cospatrick, removed the Monastery to Shap, and "granted to God and the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, of the Vale of Magdalene, and the Canons of the order of Premonstratenses, serving God there, all that his land, which was Karl (that is, out lands held by his ceorles or farmers) by these bounds, from the Ford of Carlwarth, ascending by the river on the south as far as Langeshaw-beck, and so ascending by Langeshaw-beck to the road which comes from Kendal, and so following that road northwards till it come to Stanirase, nigh Rafland ; and so by that road unto Rasate ; and so going down on the other side of the

hill to the great stone where they were wont to stand to watch the deer as they passed, and so going down to the River Louth, and further as far as the division of Rosegill towards the east; and so all along southward to the top of the hill of Creskeld, and so to Alinbalike. He grants to them also the vale with brushwood in the eastern part over against their own, stretching along by the top of the hill to the house which was William King's, and so to the land which belonged to Matthew de Hepp, and so going down westward to the said ford of Carlwath. He also grants to them pasture in common with the tenants of Rasate, and pasture at Thamboord, and at Swindale on both sides (to the top of Binbash on one side, and on the other side beyond Thengeheved) for 60 cows, and 20 mares to run in the woods, and 500 sheep, with their young till the age of three years; and for five yoke of oxen; and wood also for the abbey, timber, fire, hedging, and other necessities, without the controul of his foresters" (Dugdale's "Monasticon," p. 594).

This Thomas Cospatrick, the founder, died December 7, 1152, and was buried in this abbey, as were also several of the Veteriponts and Cliffords, who were great benefactors to it.

Various messuages and lands, both in Westmoreland and other counties, were given to this abbey by numerous individuals. At the time of the Dissolution, in 1540, its revenues were valued at £154 7s. 7½d. a year. Though the first attack of Henry VIII. on the monasteries was by the Act he got passed in 1535 to dissolve all whose revenues were under £200 a year, yet the Abbey of Shap, though under this value, by some means or other suffered not by it. Perhaps the reason might be because the Act that year speaks of those which contained under the number of twelve persons, whereas in this abbey there were twenty religious. Or perhaps Henry Earl of Cumberland, the patron thereof, who was highly in favour with Henry VIII., might have interest to save it in that first attack.

It surrendered on January 14, 1540, under the Act passed in 1539 for the suppression of monasteries. The last Abbot was Richard Evenwode, who, for some reason or other, signed the surrender of the abbey by the name of Richard Baggot. Its possessions were granted, in 1544, with the monasteries of Gisburn and Rival, in Yorkshire, to Thomas Lord Wharton, at the yearly rent of £41 11s. with reversion in the Crown, which James I., in 1610, granted to Philip, Lord Wharton, and his heirs male, with whom they continued till about the year 1730, when they were sold with the other Westmoreland estates of the notorious and profligate Duke of Wharton, to Robert Lowther, Esq., of Mauldsmeaburn, and are now attached to the Lowther estates.

In Henry VIII.'s grant of the possessions of this abbey to the Wharton family were reserved and excepted Sleddale Grange, Milbourn Grange, and all those lands in Rosegill in the tenure of

Thomas Salkeld, and the several lands and tenements in Sleagill, Melkinthorpe, and Great Strickland; and except also the lead and bells in and upon the church and site of the said late monastery, the leaden gutters and pipes, and lead in the windows.

Richard Baggot, alias Evenwode, the last abbot, was living in the first year of Queen Mary, *i.e.*, 1553, and enjoyed a pension of £40 a year. And of the canons and officers there were then surviving thirteen persons, each of whom had pensions as follows: Hugh Watsonne, Robert Barlonde, John Addison, Edward Machael, and Edmund Carter, £6 each; Martin Mackarethe, John Dawston, and Richard Mell, £5 each; John Bell, £5 6s. 8d.; George Ellerston, Anthony Johnson, John Rode, and Ralph Watsonne, £4 each.

The length of the Abbey Church, including the tower, was about 75 yards, outside measure. Its tower, which is yet standing, exhibits a specimen of excellent masonry. It has been built of white freestone, and so exceedingly durable as to preserve the marks of the chisel to this day. Some fragments of the chancel walls, which are washed by the river Lowther, also still remain. The ground adjoining the south side of the Abbey Church is covered with the relics of its cloisters and offices, many of them vaulted underneath.

The house here now occupied as a farm-house seems to have been one of the offices. About 100 yards below the abbey are the ruins of an old bridge. Shap Grange, which belonged to it, stands in rich pastures, a mile to the east, and has vestiges of a considerable village round it. Speed, after mentioning this abbey, adds, "where there is a fountain or spring which ebbs and flows many times a day"; it is called "Skuskill Well," and at present throws out a copious but apparently a regular flowing stream.

The Premonstratenses, or Monks of Premonstre, vulgarly called "White Canons," had twenty-seven monasteries in England.

GEORGE HALL.

[1844, *Part II.*, p. 381.]

Notwithstanding the alleged increase of good taste at the present day, I find it is the intention of the projectors of the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway to carry their line through, and destroy, a most interesting remnant of antiquity, the remains of a Druidical temple situated in a field the property of the Earl of Lonsdale, on the road from Kendal to Shap, and about 2 miles from the latter place. I am surprised that the noble Earl should permit such barbarity, with such influence as he possesses over the company.

The accompanying sketch (Plate II.) of this curious monument, which will probably be in a very short time no longer in existence, may be interesting to your readers. It consists of thirteen stones of Shap granite, the largest of which is 7 or 8 feet high, placed in a circle about 40 feet in diameter.

DRUID.

Sizergh.[1803, *Part I.*, p. 305.]

I beg leave to present you with a drawing of Sizergh Church, Westmoreland, from the pencil of a friend (Fig. 2).

This antique fabric is built of freestone, with the exception of a wing, in which is a porch in imitation of the Saxon, which was added by the good Bishop Wilson, whilst chaplain to William Earl of Derby, in 1692. By-the-by, the worthy and pious man did not show himself an adept in architecture, because the remainder of the church is built in the rude Gothic style which prevailed in the reign of Richard III., at which time the church at Sizergh was built—at least, such is my opinion, but I speak it under correction.

The Youghall family (of which was the Sir John Youghall who was shot by an arrow at the siege of Joppa ("Histoire de la Croix," par Froisart, at Paris, 1643) caused in memory of that event the family arms to be affixed above the south portico, of which I have sent a copy. Those of the family of Martlemere (a lion couchant, Gules, with three arrows argent), are also affixed to the north entrance. As there is no singularity about the latter, except their being superbly ornamented and painted on oak, I have not sent them.

P. WOODWARD.

Wharton.[1813, *Part I.*, p. 209.]

With this you will receive a view of the gateway of Wharton Hall, in Westmoreland (see Plate II.), drawn by Mr. Moses Griffith, the friend and companion of the celebrated Pennant, whose "Tour from Downing to Alston Moor" furnishes the following account:

"One morning I took a ride to Wharton Hall, about two miles to the south of Kirkby, seated on the Eden, and, till the ruin of the family, in a noble park, at present occupied by farmers. This had been from very distant times the residence of the well-known name of the Whartons. The antiquity of their stock is far higher than the Heralds' record. A considerable family flourished here as early as the reign of Edward I. Yet the first which is mentioned in the college is Thomas de Wharton, in the time of Henry VI., who held the manor from Thomas Clifford. The house is almost a ruin, and had been very large. In the kitchen are two vast fireplaces, and in the hall one 12 feet wide—melancholy testimonies of the former hospitality of the place. I could not avoid inquiring after the celebrated Duke. [Here Mr. Pennant quotes the well-known lines on Wharton from Pope's 'Moral Essays,' Ep. I.] I discovered that people now living well remembered the British Clodio, and bear witness to the justice of the description of the profligate part of his

character, of his affecting to hunt on Sundays, and showing in all his actions an equal contempt of the laws of God and man."

B—R.

Willington.

[1753, *p.* 355.]

Having lately had an opportunity of viewing the bridge at Willington, over the river Lone, near Kirkby Lonsdale, which for its antiquity and excellent workmanship exceeds any in the North of England, and, as it may add a little to your history of bridges, I thought it would not be unacceptable. It is the opinion of some judicious persons that this bridge has been a work of the Romans, but I rather think it to be of later date. It is all built of a fine freestone, truly squared, and almost all of a size; the joints are so firm and even that in some places they are hardly to be discovered, and the arches are really admirable. Whatever we moderns may think of ourselves, or whatever mean ideas we may have of these dark ages, here is both strength and beauty. The arches are all turned with mouldings at the edges, and three gutters in the middle, near 8 inches square, as is partly shown at B, but to give a plainer idea of it, at A is a section of the arch supposed to be cut in the middle. To be short, the whole design has been executed with the utmost exactness both for strength and beauty. The water under the arch at C is 5 yards deep in summer when the river is very low, and in winter it is almost as deep again, and vastly rapid (see the Plate).

S. PARROT.

Windermere.

[1804, *Part I.*, *pp.* 322, 223.]

In these latter days more men of letters, genius, and of learned professions have been born on the banks, or within a few miles, of the famous Lake Winandermear, in England, than in any other part of the world of the like extent, and within the same space of time, that we know or have read of. For instance:

The late Rev. Dr. Edwin Sandys, Lord Archbishop of York.

Daniel Rawlinson, from Griesdale, citizen of London.

Sir William Rawlinson, one of the First Lords Commissioners for the custody of the Great Seal of England.

Rev. Dr. Law, Lord Bishop of Carlisle, one of whose sons was also mitred during the father's episcopacy.

Robert Rawlinson, Chief Justice of Chester, etc.

Dr. Anthony Askew, the great Grecian of Emanuel College, Cambridge, and of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

(These were all near neighbours born, and were the progenitors of great, respectable, and flourishing families now in being.)

Launcelot Addison, Dean of Lichfield, father of the celebrated and highly-eminent Joseph Addison, Esq.

VOL. XXV.

II

Dr. John Barwick, of St. John's College, and Dean of St. Paul's.

Dr. Peter Barwick, physician to King Charles II.

Allan Bellingham, King's Counsel, and a Bencher of the Inner Temple.

Richard Burn, LL.D., author of "Justices' Law," etc.

Ephraim Chambers, F.R.S., original author of the "Cyclopædia."

Lionel Duckett, Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, and a great benefactor to it.

Dr. Robert Dawson, Bishop of Clonfert, in Ireland.

The Rev. Dr. Fell, who founded the Forenessfell Fellowship at St. John's College, Cambridge.

Dr. Sir John Fleming, Bart., Lord Bishop of Carlisle.

William Fleming, Archdeacon of Carlisle.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Fothergill, Master of St. John's College, Cambridge.

Dr. George Fothergill, Principal of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford.

Dr. Thomas Fothergill, Provost of Queen's College, Oxford.

Dr. John Fothergill, a Quaker, and eminent physician in London.

Dr. Thomas Garnet, natural philosopher, etc.

The Rev. Dr. Edmund Gibson, Lord Bishop of London.

Bernard Gilpin, of Queen's, and also of Christ Church, Oxford, a great character in the persecuting times of Queen Mary, and who preached a remarkable sermon before her at Barnes, Bishop of Durham.

Richard Hogarth, father of the ingenious and inimitable artist, William Hogarth.

Sir Richard Hutton, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

Dr. Roger Leyburn, Master of Pembroke Hall, and Lord Bishop of Carlisle.

John Leyburn, a Bishop of the Church of Rome.

The Rev. Adam Pennyngton, of Boston, in Lincolnshire, who first endowed the Free School at Kendal.

Sir John Preston, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

The Rev. Dr. Preston, Lord Bishop of Killala and Fearn.

Christopher Phillipson, a barrister, and a major in the army.

Robert Phillipson, a bencher of the Middle Temple.

Dr. Postlethwaite, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Dr. Barnaby Potter, Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, and Lord Bishop of Carlisle.

Dr. Thomas Savage, of Queen's College, Oxford, Master of the Rolls, Lord Chancellor, Bishop of Durham, Archbishop of York, Ambassador to Anne, and Cardinal St. Prazides.

Dr. Thomas Shaw, Principal of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, Regius Professor of Greek, and known to the learned world by his "Travels to Barbary, and the Levant," etc.

Jeremiah Seed, an able orthodox divine, and an amiable man, whose writings were much esteemed.

The Rev. Dr. Shepherd, Professor of Experimental Philosophy at Cambridge.

The Rev. John Smith, famed for his historical works of the Venerable Bede.

Dr. Thomas Smith, of Queen's College, Oxford, and Lord Bishop of Carlisle.

The Rev. Dr. John Taylor, noted for his Hebrew English Concordance.

Mr. Thomas Taylor, who compiled (a modern work) the best book of logarithms ever published.

Thomas Tickell, Esq., an ingenious poet and author, and contemporary with Addison, Steele, etc.

Dr. John Waugh, of Queen's College, Oxford, a Lord Bishop of Carlisle.

Sir John Wilson, a Judge of the Common Pleas at Westminster.

The Rev. Dr. Watson, Lord Bishop of Llandaff.

Dr. Sir Isaac Pennington, Regius Professor of Physic.

Sir Alan Chambre, a Judge of the Common Pleas, at Westminster.

Dr. Ainslie, of the College of Physicians, London.

Daniel Braithwaite, Esq., F.R.S., of the ancient family of Ambleside.

Adam Walker, the Philosophical Lecturer, in London, etc.

Rowney, Cranke, and Gardner, three ingenious artists.

Messrs. Millers, Ainslie, Hall, Bell, Harrison, and Hudson, young gentlemen of great promise in the University of Cambridge and at the Bar.

It has been supposed that the ancestors of the great naval hero Lord Nelson, Duke of Bronti, resided near the borders of this mere, on the west side of it.

Katharine, the daughter of Sir Thomas Parr, and wife of Henry VIII., was born at Kendal, near the lake.

Anne Countess of Pembroke was born not far distant; and her memory is with great reason respected in all the county of Westmoreland, as well as on the borders of this delightful lake.

References to other volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine* Library :

Prehistoric Antiquities :—Tumulus at Crosby Garrard.—*Archæology*, part i., pp. 148, 149.

Celtic Remains :—Groups of stones at Shap.—*Archæology*, part ii., pp. 72-75.

Roman Remains :—Burton, Kirkby Thor.—*Romano-British Remains*, part ii., pp. 343-345.

Folklore :—New Year's customs.—*Popular Superstitions*, p. 14; Barring-out custom.—*Manners and Customs*, p. 165.

Wiltshire.



WILTSHIRE.

[1825, Part II., pp. 32-36.]

ANCIENT STATE AND REMAINS.

British Inhabitants, Cangi, a tribe of the Belgæ; Hædui.

Roman Province.—Britannia Prima.

Stations.—Cunetio, Folly Farm, near Marlborough; Mutuantonis, Easton Grey; Sorbiodunum, Old Sarum; Verlucia, near Wans-town.

Saxon Octarchy, Wessex.

Antiquities.—British Earthworks: Southley Wood, near Heytesbury (vulgarly called Robin Hood's Bower, etc.); Bokerly Ditch; Elder Valley; Grymsditch; Hamshill ditches; Old Ditch (resembling Bokerly); Wansdike; Sutton Common (resembling an amphitheatre in miniature). Druidical or British Remains: Avebury (a series of circles, with two extensive avenues of upright stones); Brome, near Swindon, a row of upright stones; Stonehenge. Cromlechs at Clatford-bottom, Littleton-Drew; Rockley, Mountain field heath of. Encampments:* Amesbury, called Vespasian's Camp; Badbury (supposed by Whitaker to be the "Mons Badonicus" of the ancients); Bagdon; Barbury; Battlesbury; Beacon Hill; Bilbury Rings or Wily Camp; Blunsden Hill near Highworth; Bratton (successively occupied by the British, Romans, Saxons, and Danes); Broad Chalk, called Bury Orchard; Bury Wood, near Slaughtenford; Casterly, near Uphaven; Castle Rings; Chesbury, near Great Bedwin; Chidbury, near Everley; Chiselbury; Chlorus's Camp; Church Ditches; Clay Hill; Clearbury Ring (constructed by Cerdic or his son Cynric); Cotley Hill (used as an exploratory post); Haydon; Hay's Castle; Knook (British, but afterwards used by the Romans as *Castra Stativa*); Liddington; Martinsall, near Marlborough; Newton

* The difficulty of discriminating Roman from British, etc., being so great, I have classed them under the general head of encampments.

Toney; Oldborough Castle; old castle near Mere; Old Sarum; Pen-pits; Roddenbury; Rolston; Roundway Hill, near Devizes; Scratchbury Hill; Sherston; Spilsbury, called Castle Ditches; Warminster; West Down, or Hanging Langford; West Kingston; Whichbury; Whiten Hill; White-sheet Hill (occupied by Britons and Saxons); Wickball; Winkelbury; Woodyates Inn; Yarnbury (originally British, but subsequently strengthened by Romans and Saxons). Abbeys of Bradford (founded by St. Aldhelm *ante* 705); Kingswood (built in 1139 by William de Berkeley); Malmesbury (founded about 630 by Meyldulph, a Scot); Stanleigh (established in 1151 at Lokeswell, removed to Stanleigh by Maud the Empress); Wilton (founded in 773 by Wulstan Earl of Wiltshire, converted into a nunnery). Priors of Avebury (founded 1100 by William de Tankerville); Bradenstoke (founded 1142 by Walter de Eureux); Bradfield; Brioptune; Bromham (founded by Baldwin de Riperiis); Charlton, Great (founded in 1187 by Reginald de Pavely); Chissenbury; Clarendon (founded by Henry II.); Clatford (founded temp. William I. by Sir Roger Mortimer); Corsham (founded temp. William I.), another (founded temp. Henry II.); Ivychurch (founded temp. Henry II.); Kingswood (founded in 1139); Longleat (founded by Sir John Vernun or Vernon, temp. Edward I.); Maiden Bradley (founded in 1190 by Hubert, Bishop of Salisbury, formerly a hospital for leprous women, founded temp. Stephen); Marlborough (founded *ante* John); Monkton Deverill (founded *ante* 1086); Monkton Farley (founded about 1125); Okeburn (founded 1149 by Maud de Wallingford); Poulton (founded about 1337 by Thomas de St. Maur or Seymour); Ramsbury (founded in 905); Stratton (founded temp. William I. or II.); Tisselbury (founded *ante* 720); Uphaven (founded temp. Henry I.). Nunneries of Amesbury (founded by Elfrida, widow of King Edgar, refounded 980); Kingston (founded *ante* 1156);* Laycock (founded in 1232); Malmesbury, two (one founded *ante* 603); Wilton (founded in 800 by Elburga, sister to King Egbert, refounded in 871). Churches of Amesbury (ancient and curious); Ansty (the oldest church in the diocese); Avebury (part of its architecture old); Bishop Canning's (the interior Anglo-Norman); Boyton (but little alteration in its architecture since 1301); Calne (handsome tower at the north-east end); Castle Combe; Chippenham (some part very ancient); Chitterne, St. Mary; Codford, St. Mary; Crudwell; Devizes, St. John (most interesting to the architectural antiquary); St. Mary (chancel early part Norman); Draycot; Eddington; Fisherton de la Mere; Great Bedwin (partly Norman); Great Durnford; Heytesbury; Holt; Kington St. Michael (supposed erected temp. Henry III., but apparently earlier); Laycock; Little Bedwin; Malmesbury, St. Paul (some remains visible); Marlborough, St. Mary; Melksham; Mere (one of the best in South

* Tanner. Aubrey says by Empress Maud.

Wiltshire with regard to its architectural appearance); Monkton Deverill; Oaksey (Anglo-Norman remains); Ramsbury (considered the mother church to Salisbury); Sherston; Steeple Ashton (handsome); Tisbury; Westbury; West Knoyle (situate, *more antiquo*, adjoining to the manor-house). Chapels of Fugglestone (now used as lodgings for the poor); Little Horningsham; Salisbury, near Harnham Bridge, to receive alms of the passengers for repairs; Tytherington (founded by Empress Maud, a mean building resembling a barn); West Lavington (entirely demolished). Stone pulpit: Codford, St. Peter, now enclosed in the wall, the first step only visible. Fonts: Ashley; Avebury; Boyton (on a large circular column, once surrounded by four smaller ones); Bremhill; Chitterne All Saints and St. Mary (both ancient and plain); Great Durnford (Saxon); Kingston Deverill; Horningsham (old, but mutilated); Longbridge Deverill; Malmesbury, St. Mary Westport; Preshute (very large and curious); Stanton St. Quintin; Stockton. Castles of Calne; Castle Combe; Devizes (built by Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, temp. Henry I.) no remains; Downton; Farley (built by Robert de Curcelles, temp. William I.); Laycock (ascribed to the British King Dunwallo Mulmutius); Longford (modern); Ludgershall (ascribed to the British King Lud, hence Lud-gar's Hall); Malmesbury (built by the heroic Roger, Bishop of Salisbury); Marlborough; Mere (built by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, in 1253); Old Sarum; Stourton (built by Sir John de Stourton, temp. Henry V. or VI., near the site now occupied by the magnificent mansion of Sir R. C. Hoare, Bart.); Trowbridge (erected temp. Stephen); Wardour. Mansions: Chitterne (bearing a monastic appearance, used as a farmhouse); Mere Park (very ancient, originally moated); Stanton St. Quintin; Studley (formerly of the Hungerfords); Woodlands at Mere (now a farmhouse); Zeals Manor House.

PRESENT STATE AND APPEARANCE.

Rivers.—Avon, Upper and Lower; Bourne; Brue; Colne; Deverill; Kennet; Marlan; Nodder; Stour; Thames; Were; Wily.

Inland Navigation.—Kennet and Avon Canal; Thames and Severn Canal; Wilts and Berks Canal, with several branches.

Lakes.—Bowood; Charlton Common (the largest in the county); Shirewater; Earl Stoke Park, of considerable dimensions; Stourhead; Wilton Park.

Eminences and Views.—Beacon Hill, near Amesbury, 690 feet high; Bidcombe Hill, from which the sugar-loaf mountain, near Abergavenny, is seen; Bowood, the cascade truly picturesque; Box, a small village of great beauty; Bradford, very picturesque; Broxmore, highly picturesque; Cheril Hill; Clay Hill, surrounded by ditch and rampart; East Knoyle, rich and beautiful prospects towards

Dorsetshire ; Hermitage Hill, Codford ; New Park, charming and extensive view ; Savernake Forest, peculiarly fine scenery ; Silbury Hill, the largest barrow, perhaps in Europe ; Standlynch House, from the high grounds the prospect one of the finest and most varied in the county ; Earl Stoke Park, pleasure grounds, and fine prospects from the hills ; Swindon Park ; Stourhead Topwood Hill ; Stourton Churchyard, a beautiful prospect over a well-wooded and undulated scene, thickly covered with laurel ; Westbury Down, 775 feet high.

Natural Curiosities.—Bowood, many petrifying springs ; Chippenham chalybeate springs ; Heywood mineral spring ; Holt mineral spring ; Malmesbury, Daniel's Well, where Holy Daniel watched by night ; Holy Well, in which St. Aldhelm bathed in all weathers ; Melksham chalybeate and saline aperient springs ; Middle Hill Spa ; Stourhead, Paradise Well (from six fountains here the Stour rises) ; Weston Birt Floods, called Shireburn.

Public Edifices.—Bradford Bridge of nine arches, very ancient ; another of four arches ; Charity School, opened in 1712. Calne Free School, founded by J. Bentley, Esq., by will dated 1660 ; Market House and Town Hall ; Chippenham Bridge of twenty-one arches ; Charity School. Corsham Hospital ; Market House, erected in 1784 by late P. Cobb Methuen, Esq. Cricklade Free School, founded by R. Jenner, Esq., of London, who died 1651. Devizes Free Grammar School ; House of Industry ; Market Cross erected by Lord Sidmouth ; New Gaol ; Town Hall. Downton Borough Cross ; Free School, founded by Giles Eyre, Esq. Farley Hospital, erected 1678, by Sir Stephen Fox, with a Charity School. Froxfield Almshouse, founded by the widow of the fourth Duke of Somerset (*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1801, Part i., p. 306). Heytesbury Hospital, founded by Robert Lord Hungerford and Margaret his widow, about 1472. Malmesbury Cross, erected temp. Henry VII. ; Free School ; Town Hall, formerly St. John's Hospital. Marlborough Free Grammar School, founded by Edward VI. in 1651 ; Free School, founded in 1712 ; Market House ; Prison. Salisbury ; Blecklyndon's Hospital, founded in 1683 ; Bricket's Hospital, founded in 1519 ; City School, founded by Queen Elizabeth ; Close School, founded by Bishop Poore ; College of Matrons, erected by Bishop Ward ; Council House, erected 1794 by Earl Radnor ; County Gaol ; Crane Bridge, of stone ; Eyre's Hospital, erected 1617 ; Fisherton Bridge, of stone ; Free Grammar School ; Froud's Hospital, erected in 1750 ; Godolphin's Charity School ; Harnham Bridge, first built 1244 ; Infirmary, erected 1767 ; Poultry Cross ; Saint Nicholas Hospital ; Sunday School ; Taylor's Hospital, founded in 1698 ; Trinity Hospital, founded 17 Richard II. by John Ellis. Trowbridge School. Tyther-ton, Calloways School for Moravian Children. Warminster Assembly Room ; Free Grammar School ; Market-house. Westbury Town

Hall. West Lavington Free School and Almshouse, founded by William Dantsey in 1542; Wilton Free School; Town Hall.

Seats.—Wilton House, Earl of Pembroke, Lord Lieutenant; Alderbury House, G. Fort, Esq.; Amesbury House, Sir Edmund Antrobus, Bart; Ashcombe, William Wyndham, Esq.; Ashcombe, Lord Arundel; Ashley Manor House, T. B. G. Estcourt, Esq., M.P.; Ashton Keynes, R. Nicholas, Esq.; Bapton House, John Davis, sen., Esq.; Batford, R. E. D. Shaftoe, Esq.; Benton, — Stoaly, Esq.; Berry Cottage, Bishopstrow, — Temple, Esq.; Biddesden House, J. Everett, Esq.; Blacklands, late John Merrewether, Esq.; Boreham House, Rev. — Griffith; Bowden Park, Mrs. Dickenson; Bowood, Marquis of Lansdowne; Box Hall, W. Northey, Esq.; Boyton, A. B. Lambert, Esq.; Bradley House, Duke of Somerset; Brickworth House, Lord Lisle; Brickworth, J. M. Eyre, Esq.; Britford, P. Jervoise, Esq., M.P.; Broxmore House, R. Bristow, Esq.; Bulford, Dowager Lady Pollen; Burderop, Thomas Calley, Esq.; Castle Combe, W. Scrope, Esq.; Castle House, Calne, Mrs. Bondry; Charlecot House, Samuel Olla, Esq.; Charleton Park, Earl of Suffolk; Chilton Lodge, John Pearse, Esq., M.P.; Chilton House, Fulwar Craven, Esq.; Chissenbury Priory, Edmund Stagg, Esq.; Church Chatley Lodge, T. Meade, Esq.; Chute Lodge, near Ludgershall, W. Fowle, Esq.; Clarendon Lodge, F. H. Bathurst, Esq.; Clarendon Park, Sir Felton Harvey, Bart.; Clift Hall, Hon. D. P. Bouverie; Clouds House, East Knoyle, James Still, Esq.; Cole Park, Peter Harvey Lovell, Esq.; Compton House, Mrs. Heneage; Compton Chamberlayne, J. H. Penruddock, Esq.; Conholt Park, Sir W. Meadows, Bart.; Connock Manor House, Ernele Warriner, Esq.; Corsham House, Paul C. Methuen, Esq.; Cowfold Park, Peter H. Lovell, Esq.; Cowsfield House, Sir Arthur Paget, K.B.; Crow Wood, J. R. Seymour, Esq.; Dantsey, Miss Anne Bissett; Dinton House, Wm. Wyndham, Esq.; Doddington Park, Sir Christopher B. Codrington, Bart.; Donhead Hall, J. G. Kneller, Esq.; Down Ampney, Earl of St. Germans; Draycote, W. P. L. Wellesley, Esq.; Durnford House, Amesbury, Miss Harris; Earlstoke Park, George W. Taylor, Esq., M.P.; Eastcourt, Joseph Pitt, Esq., M.P.; Eastwell, J. H. Grubbe, Esq.; Everleigh House, Sir J. D. Astley, Bart., M.P.; Farley House, Lieut.-Colonel Houlron; Fern House, Thomas Grove, Esq.; Font-hill Abbey, John Farquhar, Esq.; Fisherton House, John Davis, Jun., Esq.; Fyfield House, Mrs. Penruddocke; Hannington House, R. Montgomery, Esq.; Hardenhuish, George Hawkins, Esq.; Harnish, Thomas Clutterbuck, Esq.; Hartham, General Kerr; Hartham Park, Michael Joy, Esq.; Hessek, Sir J. E. Styles, Bart.; Heytesbury House, Sir William P. A. A'Court, Bart.; Heywood House, Westbury, A. Ludlow, Esq.; Hurdcot House, Alexander Powell, Esq.; Ivy Church House, H. Henxman, Esq.; Ivy House,

Chippenham, M. Humphries, Esq. ; Kemble House, Robert Gordon, Esq., M.P. ; Knoyle, Peter Still, Esq. ; Lackham House, James Montagu, Esq. ; Lacock Abbey, John Grossett, Esq. ; Lake House, Amesbury, Rev. Edward Duke ; Landford House, T. Bolton, Esq. ; Landford Lodge, S. Greathead, Esq. ; Laverstock, Sir J. Burrough ; Liddiard or Lydiard Park, Viscount Bolingbroke ; Littlecote Park, Major-General E. L. Popham ; Little Durnford House, E. Henxman, Esq. ; Lockeridge House, Duke of Marlborough ; Longford Castle, Earl of Radnor ; Longleat, Marquis of Bath ; Lucknam, — Sawyer, Esq. ; Melchett Park, John Osborne, Esq. ; Melksham, Rev. W. B. Wrey ; Monks, Mrs. Dickinson ; Monkton, T. Edridge, Esq. ; Monkton Farley House, John Long, Esq. ; Neston Park, J. Fuller, Esq. ; Nether Avon, M. Hicks Beach, Esq. ; New Hall, near Salisbury, J. T. Batt, Esq. ; New House, near Whaddon, Mrs. Eyre ; New Park, Devizes, T. B. G. Estcourt, Esq., M.P. ; Norman Court, Charles Baring Wall, Esq. ; Notton, John Awdry, Esq. ; Oaksey House, Mrs. Salisbury ; Oare, John Goodman, Esq. ; Odstock, Sir Thomas Webb, Bart. ; Old Warren Cottage, Wanley Sawbridge, Esq. ; Pinckney House, Estcourt Creswell, Esq. ; Poulton House, T. Baskeyville Mynors, Esq. ; Puck Shipton, Joseph Gilbert, Esq. ; Purton House, — Wilson, Esq. ; Pyt House, John Benett, Esq., M.P. ; Rainscombe, Rev. Dr. Rogers ; Ramsbury, Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., M.P. ; Roche Court, F. T. Egerton, Esq. ; Rockley, Sir John Smyth, Bart. ; Rowd Ashton Park, R. G. Long, Esq. ; Rowdforde, Wadham Locke, Esq. ; Rushall, Sir Edward Poore, Bart. ; Rushmore Lodge, Lord Rivers ; Salisbury College, Wadham Wyndham, Esq., M.P. ; Salisbury Palace, Bishop of Salisbury ; Salthorpe Lodge, Mrs. B. Pye Bennet ; Sandridge Park, Lord Audley ; Savernake Lodge, Lord Bruce ; Sedghille, Mrs. Helyar ; Seend, Ambrose Awdry, Esq. ; Seend, — Robson, Esq. ; Seend Lodge, Mrs. Schomberg ; Shaw Hill House, S. Heathcote, Esq. ; Shaw House, Sir H. Burrard Neale, Bart. ; Sherfield House, J. J. Lockhart, Esq. ; Shockerwick, J. Wiltshire, Esq. ; South Broom House, W. Salmon, Esq. ; Spy Park, Calne, Rev. Dr. Starkie ; Standlynch House, see Trafalgar Park ; Stanton Fitzwarren, Rev. Dr. Ashfordby Trenchard ; Stourhead, Sir R. C. Hoare, Bart. ; Stocton House, R. Biggs, Esq. ; Stowell Lodge, Sir George Montagu, Bart., G.C.B. ; Studley Hill, J. B. Angell, Esq. ; Studley House, Edward Hortock Mortimer, Esq. ; Swindon House, Ambrose Goddard, Esq. ; Teffont House, J. T. Mayne, Esq. ; Tidworth House, T. A. Smith, Esq. ; Tilshead Lodge, — Lowther, Esq. ; Tockenham House, John J. Buxton, Esq. ; Tottenham Park, Marquis of Aylesbury ; Trafalgar Park, Earl Nelson ; Tytherley House, Rev. — Thistlethwayte ; Wans House, Charles L. Phipps, Esq. ; Wardour Castle, Lord Arundel ; Warley House, Colonel Skrine ; Warneford Place, Sevenhampton, F. Warneford, Esq. ; Westbury,

Sir M. M. Lopes, Bart. ; West Coulston House, — Lucy, Esq. ; Whaddon, W. Bowen, Esq. ; Whetham, Rev. — Money ; Wickhouse, Trowbridge, T. Bythesear, Esq. ; Wilbury House, Sir A. Warre Malet, Bart. ; Wilcot House, Miss Wroughton ; Witch, Brayhouse, P. Templeman, Esq. ; Woolley, — Howard, Esq. ; Wroughton, Mrs. Codrington ; Zeals Manor House, Mrs. Grove.

Produce.—Chalk ; freestone. Orcheston grass, wheat, barley, oats, pease, beans, turnips, potatoes. Sheep, pigs, etc.

Manufactures.—Butter, Cheese. Cutlery and steel goods. Parchment, leather, glue. Flannels, carpets, broad-cloths, kerseymeres, linen dowlas and bed-ticks, cotton, gloves, serges.

[1825, *Part II.*, pp. 126-129.]

HISTORY.

A.D. 520, Cerdic laid siege to Banbury Castle, but was so completely defeated by Arthur as not to be able again to take the field for seven years.

A.D. 552, Kenric routed the Britons, and established himself at Old Sarum.

A.D. 556, Kenric again defeated the Britons at Banbury, in consequence of which Wiltshire became incorporated with Wessex.

A.D. 590, Ceolric, rebelling against his uncle Ceanlin, completely defeated him at Wednesbury.

A.D. 652, a severe battle fought at Bradford between Kenwalph, King of Wessex, and his kinsman Cuthred, in which the King was successful.

A.D. 658, Cenwellus, King of Wessex, defeated the Britons at Pen.

A.D. 695,* a bloody battle fought at Great Bedwin between Wulfhere, King of Mercia, and Escuin, Governor of Wessex, in which the former was defeated.

A.D. 821 or 823, Egbert, King of Wessex, fought a successful battle against Beornwulf the Mercian, at Wilton.

A.D. 853, Ethelwulf, on his return from an expedition against the Welsh, resided at Chippenham, where the nuptials of his daughter were celebrated.

A.D. 854, Ethelwulf executed at Wilton the charter by which he conveyed the whole tithes of his kingdom to the clergy.

A.D. 871, a bloody battle fought at Marden between King Ethelred and the Danes, in which the former was defeated, and died soon after of his wounds. In this or the succeeding year Alfred obtained a victory over the Danes at Wilton, after a sanguinary contest.

A.D. 875, Castle Combe Castle said to be demolished by the Danes. [This is, however, doubtful.]

A.D. 878, the Danes entered the county, plundering and destroying wherever they came, at which time Malmesbury was assaulted and

* Some historians write 675.

burnt. When Alfred engaged the Danes by treaty to quit the kingdom, they treacherously possessed Chippenham, and being strengthened by arrivals, at last compelled Alfred to go into retirement. Alfred having afterwards collected a considerable force in the vicinity of Selwood, sallied upon the unsuspecting Danes at Eddington, who fled to Bratton Castle, which they were forced to surrender after a siege of fourteen days. In memory of this it is said a white horse was cut by the Saxons on the slope of the hill, by paring off the surface turf in the shape of a horse.

A.D. 905, Ethelwald entered Wiltshire with an army of Danes to assert his pretensions to the throne of Wessex. He put to death all the inhabitants of the tract of Braden Forest, but did not advance farther than Cricklade.

A.D. 939, Athelstan defeated the Danes at Sodbury.* The men of Malmesbury displayed great courage.

A.D. 954, a synod held at Bradford, in which the treacherous St. Dunstan was elected Bishop of Worcester.

A.D. 960, Edgar held a great council at Old Sarum, when several laws were enacted.

A.D. 977, a synod held at Calne, at which a most diabolical act was effected by St. Dunstan. In consequence another was held at Amesbury.† Stephen went to Wilton with the intention of fortifying the nunnery, but the Earl of Gloucester unexpectedly set the town on fire.

A.D. 1001, a bloody battle fought at Pen, in which the Danes overthrew the Saxons under Cola and Eadsigus.

A.D. 1002, the Danes barbarously murdered by King Ethelred.

A.D. 1003, Sweyn, King of Denmark, pillaged and burnt Old Sarum and Wilton, returning to his ships laden with wealth.

A.D. 1006, the Danes defeated by the men of Wiltshire, near Kennet.

A.D. 1011, Sweyn once more passed through Wiltshire, imposing very heavy contributions. King Ethelred lay sick at Corsham, but his son Edmund obliged them to fly to their ships.

A.D. 1016, Canute, with an army of Danes, plundered Cricklade. They were defeated by the army under King Edmund Ironside at Pen, and at Great Sherston;‡ in the latter engagement he with difficulty gained the victory.

A.D. 1066, William I., after the victory at Battle, came to Stourton House, where he was met by the Abbot of Glastonbury, and the grandees of the Western parts. Attended by his nobles, he went to

* Leland, "Itin.," vii., p. 96. Mr. Hobbes, "Malmes. Vit. Author. Seip.," p. 1, considers the engagement to have occurred near the town.

† See Britton's "Beauties of Wiltshire," vol. ii., pp. 229, 230. See, however, Lingard's "History of England," vol. i., on this subject.

‡ Some place it at Shirestones, Worcestershire.

Old Sarum, to receive the homage of the principal landholders, who then became his vassals.*

A.D. 1095, a great council held at Old Sarum by William II., which impeached William Earl de Owe, or de Ou, of high treason, for conspiring to raise Stephen Earl of Albemarle to the throne. His cruel punishment shows the barbarity of the age.

A.D. 1100, Henry I. held his Court at Old Sarum for some months, and again in 1106.

A.D. 1116, Henry I. held a council at Old Sarum of all the nobles and barons of the realm, to do homage to his son William, as his successor to the English throne. This council is considered the origin of English Parliaments.

A.D. 1139, Stephen seized the castles of Salisbury, Devizes, and Malmesbury, from Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, his nephew Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, and another nephew, after an obstinate resistance.

A.D. 1140, Stephen besieged Malmesbury.

A.D. 1141, April 25, Devizes Castle besieged by Robert Fitzherbert, who boasted he would be master of all the country from Wiltshire to London, but John the Governor of Marlborough took him, and had him hung. The Empress Maud took up her abode in Ludgershall Castle in her flight from Winchester to Devizes.

A.D. 1142, Old Sarum taken possession of by the Empress.

A.D. 1150, Trowbridge Castle besieged and taken by Stephen.

A.D. 1152, Henry of Anjou, son of Maud, entered England to support his claim to the crown. Soon after his landing he laid siege to Malmesbury, which, together with the Castle, he took in a very short time; and soon afterwards the Jordan's Tower, which had held out, surrendered. Stephen proceeded to Malmesbury to offer him battle, but the inclemency of the weather compelled him to retire to London.

A.D. 1164, Henry II. held a council at Clarendon Palace, in which were passed the "Constitutions of Clarendon."

A.D. 1193, during the imprisonment of Richard I. John his brother, afterwards King, seized many towns and castles, and among them Marlborough.

A.D. 1194, soon after Richard's return from captivity, Marlborough Castle was reduced by Archbishop Hubert.

A.D. 1225, Henry III. and Hubert de Burgh arrived at Salisbury, in the Cathedral of which they performed their offerings.

A.D. 1233, Hubert de Burgh confined at Devizes Castle, whence he escaped to the high altar of the Parish Church, from which he was again seized and reconducted to the castle. The guards who took him were excommunicated, and he was shortly afterwards released.

A.D. 1258, Henry III. and his Court attended the dedication of Salisbury Cathedral. He came from Clarendon.

* Some place this under 1086.

A.D. 1267, a Parliament summoned to meet at Marlborough.

A.D. 1297, a Parliament held at Salisbury to consult the best mode of opposing Philip of France, who had seized Guienne. The Earls of Norfolk and Hereford would not assist him, but retired, with thirty others, from Salisbury, in open rebellion.

A.D. 1317, Edward II. summoned a Parliament to meet at Clarendon, but the barons, apprehensive of treachery, neglected to attend.

A.D. 1328, a Parliament held at Salisbury, in which the Earl of Lancaster intended to impeach the odious Mortimer. The latter procured an order that none should appear armed in the assembly. The nobles, being suspicious of his design, retired to Winchester, leaving the clergy wholly to deliberate. Scarcely had they entered upon the dispatch of business, when Mortimer broke into the hall with a band of armed men, threatening them with death if they presumed to speak or enact any resolution contrary to his pleasure.

A.D. 1357, during the ravages of the Plague, Edward III., John, King of France, and David, King of Scotland, spent the summer at Clarendon.

A.D. 1358, Edward and his Queen spent the summer at Marlborough and Corsham.

A.D. 1459, on the breaking out of Jack Cade's rebellion, the tenants of the Bishop of Salisbury joined in the insurrection. On June 29 they seized the Bishop in his palace at Eddington while celebrating mass, and, dragging him to a neighbouring hill, barbarously stoned him to death.

A.D. 1457, Henry VI. visited Salisbury, and lodged at the deanery. He sat with his lords in the Bishop's Palace, to pass judgment on traitors.

A.D. 1471, Edward IV. passed through Malmesbury as he advanced to meet Queen Margaret at Tewkesbury.

A.D. 1473, Edward IV. visited Salisbury.

A.D. 1483, Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, by whose influence and exertions Richard III. was advanced to the throne, was executed at Salisbury.

A.D. 1486, Henry VII. visited Salisbury, and was met by the Corporation on Alderbury Common.

A.D. 1516, Henry VIII. and Queen Catharine visited Salisbury.

A.D. 1535, Henry VIII. escorted his Queen, Anne Boleyn, thither.

A.D. 1536, on March 20, Henry VIII. married Lady Jane Seymour at Wolf Hall.

A.D. 1574, Queen Elizabeth entertained by the Earl of Pembroke at Clarendon. She also visited Salisbury.

A.D. 1579, in September Elizabeth, at Wilton, received the French Ambassadors.

A.D. 1603, King James I. visited Salisbury, where he was royally

entertained. He, together with his Queen and Prince Henry, spent some weeks at Wilton House. He also visited other mansions in Wiltshire, as he did again in the years 1607, 1609, 1613, 1615, 1618, 1620, and 1623, each time passing a day or two at Salisbury.

A.D. 1625, Charles I. was at Salisbury; and again in 1635.

A.D. 1632, when Charles I. was at Salisbury, a boy aged fifteen was hanged, drawn, and quartered, for saying he would buy a pistol to kill the King.

A.D. 1643, in May Sir Edward Hungerford besieged Wardour Castle, but was boldly withstood by twenty-five fighting men, under the command of the Lady Arundel, for a considerable time, till at last they surrendered. The learned and illustrious Mr. Chillingworth was here when it was taken. A severe battle between the two parties at Albourne, in September. The Royalists, under the King and Rupert, beat the enemy under Essex. Charles I. lodged at Malmesbury, in his way to Cirencester. Waller, after he had taken Chichester, moved quick through Wiltshire, with near 2,000 light horse and dragoons, and took Malmesbury, which was retaken the same year. Prince Maurice took the Mayor of Salisbury prisoner for not assisting the King.

A.D. 1644, Woodhouse garrisoned by a party of the Parliament forces, under the command of Major Wansey, and closely pressed in siege by Lord Inchiquin with his Irish forces. Ludlow advanced to Warminster, intending to raise the siege, but not being strong enough, retreated, after a short skirmish, towards Salisbury. He lost all but thirty out of his two hundred horse. After the battle of Lansdown the Royalists retreated to Chippenham, where they offered battle to Waller; but being refused, marched to Devizes, where they were besieged by Waller, who was entirely overthrown by the re-inforcing troops of Lord Wilmot, at Roundaway Hill.

A.D. 1645, Cromwell took the Castle of Devizes, and assaulted Malmesbury.

A.D. 1648, in July, Devizes besieged by the Parliamentarians under Waller, but some royal troops coming to its assistance, Waller was completely routed, 600 being killed on the spot and 900 taken prisoners.

A.D. 1655, Penruddock, Groves, Jones, etc., with 200 horse, marched to Salisbury, seized the Sheriffs and Judges then present at the assizes, and proclaimed Charles II. King. If this troop had been supported by their associates in other parts, the Restoration would at that time have been effected by force of arms.

A.D. 1663, Charles II. magnificently entertained at Longleat by Sir James Thynne.

A.D. 1665, Charles II. went to Salisbury on account of the plague in London.

A.D. 1671, Charles II. slept at Wilton House on his way to Plymouth.

mouth. The next day he breakfasted at the Bishop's Palace, Salisbury.

A.D. 1683, several members of the royal family entertained by the city of Salisbury at an expense of £1,500.

A.D. 1688, James II. went to Sarum with his army to oppose the Prince of Orange, but soon returned to London. The crown on the top of the Council House, Salisbury, fell down!

A.D. 1722, August 29 George I. and the Prince of Wales reviewed the forces encamped within two miles of Salisbury.

A.D. 1778, George III. and his Queen entertained by the Bishop of Salisbury. His Majesty reviewed the dragoons on Comb Down, and afterwards visited the Earl of Pembroke at Wilton.

A.D. 1789, George III. and his Queen visited the Marquis of Bath at Longleat.

The following events deserve to be noticed, though I have not been able to ascertain the precise years in which they occurred:

A sanguinary battle fought at Commerford* between the Mercians under Earl Æthelmund and Wurstan, Earl of Wiltshire. King Stephen went to Wilton, with the intent of fortifying the nunnery, but the Earl of Gloucester unexpectedly set the town on fire.

S. T.

[1825, *Part II.*, pp. 227-230.]

EMINENT NATIVES.

Addison, Joseph, the great, the wise, and good, Milston, 1672.

Adelhelm, St., learned Bishop and ingenious poet, Malmesbury (ob. 709).

Allein, Joseph, Nonconformist divine, Devizes, 1623.

Anstey, Christ, ingenious author of the "New Bath Guide," Harden Huish, 1724.

Ashley, Robert, learned barrister, Nash Hill, 1565.

Aubrey, John, eminent antiquary, Easton Piers, 1625 or 1626.

Beckham, Humphrey, untutored sculptor, Salisbury, 1588.

Beckinsau, John, author of eminence and friend of Leland, Broad Chalk, about 1496.

Bennett, Dr. Thomas, learned divine and controversialist, Salisbury, 1673.

Blackmore, Sir Richard, eminent physician and voluminous poet, Corsham (ob. 1729).

Brewer, Samuel, botanist, Trowbridge (flourished 1726).

Buckeridge, John, Bishop of Ely, Draycot, about 1562.

Canutus, Robert, eminent writer in the twelfth century, Cricklade.

Chandler, Mary, ingenious poet, Malmesbury, 1687.

Chilmarke, John de, celebrated mathematician and philosophical

* Some have fixed the scene of action erroneously at Kempsford, co. Gloucester.

writer, the Archimedes of the age, Chilmarke (flourished thirteenth century).

Chubb, Thomas, noted deistical writer, Salisbury, 1679.

Clarendon, Roger de, illegitimate son of Edward the Black Prince, Clarendon.

Collinson, Rev. John, historian of co. Somerset, Bromham (ob. 1796).

Corderoy, Jeremy, celebrated divine in the seventeenth century, Chute.

Coryate, George, Latin poet, Salisbury (ob. 1606).

Cottington, Francis Lord, celebrated statesman, Mere (ob. 1651).

Danvers, Henry, Earl of Danby, brave warrior, Dantsey, 1573.

Davies, Sir John, eminent lawyer, poet, and politician, Chisgrove in Tisbury, about 1570.

Davies, Lady Eleanor, mystical writer, wife of Sir John Davies, and daughter of Lord Audley, of Fonthill, about 1603.

Davis, Lady Mary, mistress to Charles II. and rival of Nell Gwyn, Charlton.

Delany, Mary, the accomplished wife of the friend of Swift, Coulston, 1700.

Devizes, Richard of, historian and Benedictine, Devizes (ob. about 1200).

Ditton, Humphrey, mathematician, Salisbury, 1675.

Dobson, Michael, learned and ingenious barrister, Marlborough, 1732.

Dryden, Charles, son to the poet, Charlton (ob. 1704).

Duck, Stephen, celebrated ingenious poet, Charlton (ob. 1756).

Edington, William de, Bishop of Winchester, Lord High Treasurer, Eddington (ob. 1366).

Edwards, Bryan, eminent merchant and author, Westbury, 1743.

Eedes, John, divine and author, Salisbury, 1659.

Eyre, Rev. William, advocate of the doctrine of prejustification, against Baxter, etc., Brickworth, seventeenth century.

Eyre, James, Lord Chief Justice of Court of Common Pleas, 1734.

Feltham, John, amiable man and miscellaneous author, Salisbury, 1770.

Forman, Simon, celebrated astrologer, Quidhamton, near Wilton, 1552.

Foster, Sir Michael, Justice of the King's Bench, Marlborough, 1689.

Fowler, Christopher, Nonconformist, Marlborough, 1619 or 1611.

Fox, Sir Stephen, distinguished loyalist and patriot, Farley, 1627.

Goffe, William, author of "Londinium Triumphans," Earlstoke, ob. 1682.

Gore, Thomas, clever antiquary and political writer, Alderton, 1631.

Greenhill, John, celebrated portrait painter, Salisbury, 1640.

- Harris, James, celebrated author of "Hermes," Salisbury, 1709.
 Harris, William, D.D., eminent historian and biographer, Salisbury, 1720.
 Harte, Walter, poet and historian, Marlborough (ob. 1773).
 Hayter, Richard, theological writer, Salisbury, 1611.
 Hawles, John, lawyer, Salisbury, 1645.
 Herbert, William, Earl of Pembroke, the most universally beloved and esteemed of any man of that age, Wilton, 1580.
 Herbert, Philip, Earl of Pembroke, brother of the above, Wilton (ob. 1649-50).
 Hobbes, Thomas, metaphysician, Westport, Malmesbury, 1588.
 Horman, William, divine and author, Salisbury (ob. 1535).
 Hughes, John, poet and moralist, Marlborough, 1677.
 Hyde, Edward, Earl of Clarendon, historian, Denton,* 1608.
 Hyde, Sir Nicholas, Lord Treasurer, Tisbury (ob. 1631).
 Hyde, Alexander, Bishop of Salisbury, Salisbury (ob. 1667).
 Keate, George, poet and writer of considerable eminence, Trowbridge, 1729 or 1730.
 Lavington, George, Bishop of Exeter and excellent scholar, Mildenhall, 1682 or 1683.
 Lawes, Henry, celebrated musician and composer, Salisbury, 1600.
 Lawes, William, brother of the above, and no less celebrated as a loyalist and musician (ob. 1645).
 Ludlow, Edmund, honest and independent republican, Maiden Bradley, 1620.
 Malmesbury, Oliver of, mathematician and astrologer, and the first English aerial voyager (flourished in the eleventh century).
 Malmesbury, William de, learned historian and librarian to the Abbey † (flourished twelfth century).
 Mann, John, divine and politician, Laycock, 1568.
 Marlborough, Henry of, historian (flourished fifteenth century).
 Maschiart, Michael, Latin poet and able civilian, Salisbury (ob. 1598).
 Massinger, Philip, eminent dramatic poet, Wilton, 1585.
 Matthew, Sir Toby, celebrated Jesuit and politician, Salisbury, 1577.
 Maton, Robert, celebrated Divine, North Tidworth, about 1607.
 Merriott, Thomas, divine and author, Steeple Langford (ob. 1662).
 Norden, John, surveyor and topographer, about 1548.
 Norris, John, eminent divine, poet, and Platonist, Collingbourne Kingston, 1657.
 Pitt, William, truly patriotic Earl of Chatham, Stratford House, Old Sarum, ‡ 1708.

* According to some, at Purton.

† Some give him birth in Somersetshire.

‡ Seward's "Anecdotes," vol. ii., where there is a view of the house. The editor of his Life, three vols., 8vo., says he was born in St. James's parish, Westminster, and another writer says in Devonshire.

- Plantagenet, Margaret, the mother of Cardinal Pole, Farley Castle, 1473.
- Potter, Francis, divine and excellent mechanic, Mere, 1594.
- Raleigh, Dr.,* whose misfortunes during the Civil Wars were truly distressing, Downton (ob. 1645).
- Rudburne, Thomas, Bishop of St. David's, Rudburne (ob. 1442).
- Sacheverell, Henry, notorious political preacher, Marlborough, 1672.
- Salisbury, John of, Bishop of Chartres, one of the most eminent scholars of the day, Salisbury (ob. 1181).
- Scott, Dr. John, learned divine, Chippenham, 1638.
- Sedgwick, John, Nonconformist divine, Marlborough, 1600.
- Sedgwick, Obadiah, brother of John, and learned divine, Marlborough (ob. 1658).
- Squire, Dr. Samuel, learned Bishop of St. David's and Greek scholar, Warminster, 1714.
- Stephens, Nathaniel, learned divine, Stanton Barnard (ob. 1677).
- Stephens, Philip, physician and author, Devizes (ob. 1660).
- Tanner, Thomas, Bishop of Norwich, a most learned and useful antiquary, Market Lavington, 1674.
- Thornborough, John, Bishop of Worcester and excellent chemist, Salisbury, 1552.
- Tobin, John, dramatic author, Salisbury, 1770.
- Webbe, George, Bishop of Limerick, Bromham, 1581.
- Willis, Thomas, eminent physician and author, Great Bedwin, 1621.
- Wilton, John of, senior, a learned and subtle disputant, Wilton, close of thirteenth century.
- Wilton, John of, junior, an elegant and allegorical writer, Wilton (flourished Edward III.).
- Wilton, Thomas of, Dean of St. Paul's, London, a man of great learning and abilities.
- Winterburne, Walter, Cardinal of St. Sabin and polemist, Salisbury, about 1224.
- Withers, Philip, a writer of considerable distinction, Westbury (ob. 1790).
- Wren, Sir Christopher, celebrated architect, East Knoyle, 1632.
- Zouch, Richard, learned civilian, Anstey, 1590.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS.

At Albourne King John is traditionally said to have had a hunting seat, part of which remains. This village is thought to have been described by Goldsmith in his "Deserted Village," but it is most probable that village was in Ireland.

* Grandson of Sir Walter.

At Alderton died, in 1684, Gore the antiquary, who was also born and buried here.

Amesbury House was the residence of the celebrated Duke and Duchess of Queensberry, under whose patronage Gay spent the happiest years of his life, and wrote some of his best pieces here.

At Anstey the Hospitallers had a house founded by Walter de Turbevill, temp. John.

Ashcombe is situate upon an isolated knoll in the centre of a circular amphitheatre, formed by the surrounding hills. "An inverted basin placed in the middle of a large china bowl will give a clear idea of this romantic spot. On the circular top of the inner basin stands the house."

Bemerton is interesting from its having been the residence and rectory of Bishop Curle, George Herbert, and John Norris, as it is now of Archdeacon Coxe, distinguished names in the annals of literature.

In Bishopstone Church are two stone coffins, generally supposed to have contained the relics of two ancient Bishops.

Amongst the curiosities at Bowood was a portrait of Oliver Cromwell, on leaf gold, by Walker, the Protector's favourite artist. Near the aviary is a remarkable echo, which repeats every word three or four times. In the forest James I. amused himself and courtiers with hunting.

In Boyton Church are two ancient altar tombs to the Giffards. On one we have the true origin of the label as a difference in armorial bearings. In the other Lady Margaret Giffard forgot the downfall of her family. Here resides Aylmer B. Lambert, Esq., F.R.S., a gentleman well known in all our literary societies, and justly celebrated for his researches in botany and natural history. Between Boyton and Corton is a remarkable place called Chapel, or Chettle, Hole, where, according to tradition, a church was swallowed up by diabolical agency. It was probably named "cetel," a chaldron, from a spring rising at its bottom. The Corton beach is a vegetable curiosity.

Of Bremhill is Vicar the Rev. W. L. Bowles, the pathetic and eloquent poet. Many of his poems "were chiefly written here."

At Broad Chalk Aubrey possessed an estate, and here he occasionally resided.

At Bromham was born the Rev. John Collinson, historian of Somersetshire.

At Calne the Kings of Wessex had a palace. Near Calne, on Cheril Hill, is a large white horse, formed by paring off the turf on the side of the chalk hill, executed about 1780.

At Charlton Park are some very valuable original portraits by Vandeyck, etc.

Cherill was possessed by the great king-making Earl of Warwick.

Chippenham, a favourite residence of the Kings of Wessex. Alfred bequeathed the palace to his daughter Ethelfleda. The origin of the extensive clothing trade is singular. In Chippenham Church is a monument to Sir Gilbert Pryn, Knight. Here died Mr. Thorpe, author of "*Registrum Roffense*," etc., buried at Hardenuish, where also is interred the late David Ricardo, Esq.

At Chitterne All Saints are several memorials to the family of Matthew Mitchell, who was employed to defend Zealand against the French, and to assist the Dutch in restoring the Prince of Orange to the dignity of Stadtholder.

At Clarendon Priory, in the fifteenth century, were dug up the bones of a monster, in length 14 feet 11 inches. Clarendon gave title of Earl to the famous Edward Hyde, Lord Chancellor. Here the celebrated Stephen Duck pursued the humble employment of thrasher, and whether labouring at the plough, the reap-hook, or the flail, the poetical works of Milton were ever in his hands. His melancholy end was noticed under Surrey. Nothing now remains of Clarendon Palace, the residence of some of our early monarchs, but ruined walls and heaps of rubbish.

Of Codford St. Mary was Rector the loyal Dr. Creed, who published a defence of Dr. Hammond's *Εκτενότερον* against Mr. Jeanes.

The Vicar of Corsham possesses very extraordinary privileges, having episcopal jurisdiction within the parish. At Corsham House is a valuable collection of paintings by Titian, Rubens, Vandyck, etc.

The river Deverill dives underground, like the Guadiana in Spain and the Mole in Surrey (see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1824, Part i., p. 33), and pursues its subterranean course upwards of a mile, then, rising, runs onward toward Warminster.

Devizes Castle, characterized as the strongest fortress in Europe by our early historians. In the market-place many years ago was a pillar recording a singular mark of Divine vengeance (see "*Beauties of England*," vol. xv., p. 430). Many curious Roman antiquities have been discovered here.

S. T.

[1825, *Part II.*, pp. 321-324.]

At Downton, according to tradition, Bevis, Earl of Southampton, reckoned by the vulgar one of the greatest heroes of England, and King John, had residences. At the borough cross all elections take place, unless a poll is demanded, when they adjourn to a public-house. In front of the public-house, near this cross, are two busts in niches, said to be portraits of King John and one of his Queens. Underneath are sculptured "*J. R., 1205*," but evidently of later execution.

Draycot Church is adorned with helmets, swords, flags, and other military accoutrements.

At East Everley Ina, King of Wessex, is supposed to have had a

palace. In the manor-house is a portrait of Sir Ralph Sadleir, with a hawk on his left hand. In the drawing-room is a curious picture representing some events in the life of John de Astley, of Pateshull, co. Warwick.

The rude wooden roof of the turret of Fisherton de la Mere Church serves as a pigeon-house. Here is a small monument of singular construction; the sculpture represents two infants laid on biers, who died 1624.

Of the beauties of Fonthill nothing need be said, the sale of the magnificent furniture, etc., having made them very familiar (see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1822, Part ii., pp. 100, 292).

Of Fuggleston is rector Archdeacon Coxe, well known for his many valuable publications. His "History of Monmouthshire" is decorated with plates from the spirited drawings of Sir R. C. Hoare, Bart. In the Hospital Chapel are said to be deposited the remains of Adelicia, Queen of Henry I.

At Harnish died, 1805, Christopher Anstey, Esq., the celebrated author of the "New Bath Guide." In the church is a monument to John Thorpe, author of "Custumale Roffense," etc.; also another to David Ricardo, Esq.

At Hartham Park resided Lady James, the friend and correspondent of Sterne. In this parish died Edmund Smith the poet.

At Heddington Church, north of Devizes, is a worm-eaten coffin, without date, suspended from the inside.

At Heytesbury was seated a branch of the noble family of Hungerford, whose early history has been elucidated by Sir R. C. Hoare, Bart. The present lord of the manor is Sir William A'Court, our ambassador in Spain. The Empress Maud sometimes resided here during her contentions with Stephen. In the church is a tablet to the memory of Mr. William Cunnington, "a persevering antiquary and skilful geologist," whose researches and collections form the basis of the "Ancient Wiltshire."

In Hill Deverill Church is a monumental record of the Ludlow family. Of this family was the celebrated republican General, Edmund Ludlow.

At Horningsham for many years resided the late Thomas Davis, Esq., a well-informed agriculturist.

Idminston deserves notice as having been for many years the residence of Rev. John Bowle, commonly called Don Bowle, from his attachment to the Spanish language.

In Imber Church is a small tablet to the memory of the Rev. John Offer, the much lamented coadjutor of Sir R. C. Hoare, in investigating and collecting the records of this county. He resided at Imber some years.

Littlecott Park, according to tradition, was the scene of a most strange and mysterious affair (see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1823).

Another story of a similar kind was formerly current at Edinburgh, and was very lately revived in France.

Longford Castle is mentioned in Sidney's "*Arcadia*," under the title of Amphiolus's Castle. Queen Elizabeth is supposed to have here visited her maid of honour the Lady Northampton. The present chapel is called the Queen's Bedchamber. The house contains a number of celebrated paintings by the first masters. Among them are the two much-admired pictures by Claude of the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, and a portrait of Erasmus by Holbein. Here is also a great curiosity, a steel chair, executed at Augsburg in 1575, divided into more than 130 compartments, representing the history of Rome from the landing of Eneas to the time of the Emperor Rodolphus II., for whom it was executed.

Of the Thynnes of Longleat was Thomas Thynne, Esq., whose melancholy death is commemorated by a monument in Westminster Abbey. At this house Mrs. Singer, the famous western muse, spent much of her time, as did also the venerable Bishop Ken. The baronial hall is most appropriately decorated with armorial escutcheons, hunting pieces, and stags' horns. The gallery contains numerous portraits of the Thynne family, and many other distinguished characters.

Lydiard Tregoze Church contains many memorials of the house of St. John.

In Maiden Bradley Church is the tomb of the celebrated Sir Edward Seymour, Bart., Speaker of the House of Commons in 1678. The inscription is very spirited.

In Malmesbury Abbey was interred King Athelstan. The celebrated William of Malmesbury was librarian to the abbey. The White Lion Inn was formerly a hospitium belonging to the abbey. Near the entrance is a small stone vase, fixed in the wall, probably a receptacle for holy water. The workhouse was also an hospitium. Here, according to tradition, Henry VIII. and his retinue were entertained by Mr. Stumpe the clothier on their return from hunting in Bredon Forest. It is probable that here Charles I rested in 1643 on his march to Cirencester. Amongst the abbots may be mentioned St. Aldhelm, Athelard, and Ælfric. Oliver, a monk of Malmesbury and a mathematician, having affixed wings to his hands and feet, ascended a lofty tower, from whence he took his flight, and was borne upon the air for the space of a furlong, when, owing to the violence of the wind or his own fear, he fell to the ground, and broke both his legs.

In the neighbourhood of Marlborough Castle the poet Thomson, while on a visit to the Earl of Hertford, composed a portion of his inimitable "*Seasons*." Every person formerly, on admission into the Corporation, presented the Mayor with two greyhounds, two white capons, and a white bull, which custom is plainly alluded to in the

arms of the town. In the free school was educated Harte the poet and historian. At the Free Grammar School were educated Sir M. Foster, eminent judge, and Dr. Mapleton, Chancellor of the Diocese of Hereford.

In Melchet Park was erected, in 1800, a beautiful Hindoo temple as a tribute to the memory of Warren Hastings, Esq. In it is a pedestal surmounted by a bust of Mr. Hastings, who is characterized thereon as "the Saviour of India to the British Empire."

In Mere Church are the remains of some old wooden seats and stalls, richly carved, and a very fine and perfect effigy engraved in brass of Johannes Betesthorpe, 1390. In the belfry of the turret is a singular and beautiful ceiling of carved oak of a great variety of patterns.

Monkton Deverill has acquired celebrity from its clergyman, Mr. John White, ejected by the Parliamentarians. Against a dwelling-house occupied by a wheelwright is a very handsome escutcheon of arms engraved with a rich border, of the Ludlow family.

At Monkton Farley died Bishop Jewel, September 22, 1571.

Of Old Sarum the great Earl of Chatham was first elected M.P.

At Pitmead, near Warminster, in 1786, were discovered some interesting remains of Roman antiquities. The subsequent discoveries of Mr. Cunnington in 1800 prove Pitmead to have been the site of a magnificent Roman villa.

Roddenbury Hill was the scene of a most barbarous murder, December 28, 1812.

Salisbury Cathedral is the most uniform, regular, and systematic edifice of the kind in England. The spire has never been equalled in height, being just double that of the Monument, and 70 feet higher than the top of St. Paul's. The interior of the chapter house is decorated with a very curious series of historical carvings, representing the history of the Old Testament from the creation to the overthrow of the Egyptians in the Red Sea. The windows are said to correspond in number with the days of the year, the pillars to the weeks, and the gates or doors to the months. The first person buried here was William Longspee, Earl of Salisbury, in 1226. In the morning chapel is the tomb of Bishop Poore, the venerable founder. In the vestry several curious relics are preserved. Near the west door is the tomb of a boy-bishop, who is represented clerically robed and mitred, a crosier in his hand, and a dragon at his feet. In the great transept repose the remains of the celebrated author of "Hermes." Of this See were Bishops Dr. Jewel, author of the learned and justly-celebrated "Apology for the Church of England," a book so much approved of, that Elizabeth, James, and Charles I. ordered it to be read and chained up in every parish church; Brian Duppa, supposed to have assisted in the *Εκκλῆσιαν Βασιλικήν*; J. Earle, the preceptor of Charles II.; Gilbert Burnet, who converted the

Earl of Rochester; and Hoadly the polemist. In St. Edmund's Church was formerly a very singular painted glass window, representing in a very absurd manner the Creation. It was destroyed in the time of Archbishop Laud, by the enthusiastic Sherfield. The tower fell down on Sunday, June 26, 1653, without doing harm to the congregation. On the outer wall, west end of St. Thomas's Church, is a curious wooden monument, ornamented with rude representations of Scripture history in *alto-relievo*. It was executed by Humphrey Beckham, whom it commemorates. He died in 1671, aged 88. Over the altar is a large painting of the Transfiguration by Guest, 1810. In the Council House, among several others, is the portrait of Queen Anne, by Dahl, which formerly belonged to the October Club. The Poultry Cross had its origin in a very curious circumstance connected with the Lollards (see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1818, Part i., 393). At the City School were educated Forman the astrologer, and Lord Chief Baron Eyre. In the Close School was educated the author of "Hermes." At the Grammar School the celebrated Mr. Addison acquired the rudiments of learning. Of this town was member the patriotic Sir Stephen Fox.

At Shrewton, in a small public-house, was formerly a curious alabaster sculpture, designed to represent the Trinity (see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1752).

Spye Park was the occasional residence of the profligate and witty Earl of Rochester, and the late Colonel Thornton of sporting celebrity.

In Stockton Church is a piece of iron framework, with some remains of faded ribbon depending from it. It is the last memorial of a custom now quite disused in this part of the country, that of carrying a garland decorated with ribbons before the corpse of a young unmarried woman, and afterwards suspending it in the church. This custom was revived at the particular request of a person about twenty years ago, and the faded garland still remains where originally placed.

At Stourhead, the magnificent seat of Sir R. C. Hoare, Bart., are two ancient Gothic crosses, removed from Bristol. The Pantheon is the most magnificent building perhaps that ever decorated the grounds of an English individual. In it is an antique statue of Livia Augusta that cost 2,000 guineas; a statue of Hercules, the *chef-d'œuvre* of Rysbrach; and a beautiful Flora by the same artist. The turret to the memory of Alfred was noticed under Somersetshire. There is also an obelisk of stone surmounted by a representation of the sun, and built of the same proportions as one of the Egyptian obelisks at Rome. On this obelisk is an elegant classical inscription to the memory of Henry Hoare, Esq., who improved and embellished the demesnes. The mansion contains many portraits of the highly-respectable family of Hoare, and a most spirited bust of Pope by Roubiliac, which is generally admired. In the entrance hall is a collection of family portraits, and some good specimens, on a small

scale, of the modern school of painting. The music-room is principally occupied by a pleasing selection of fancy paintings by modern artists of the British school, and such as both now and hereafter will do credit to them. In the dining-room are some very fine specimens of painting in crayons, a style quite unfashionable. The south apartment is devoted to a fine collection of drawings in bistre, collected by its present worthy possessor during his travels in Italy. The library contains a valuable assemblage of books, especially classical, antiquarian, and topographical. The cabinet room contains a very splendid cabinet (whence its name), embellished with precious stones, marbles, agates, etc., of every description. It formerly belonged to Pope Sixtus V., whose portrait and those of his family, Peretti, are beautifully modelled in wax, and placed in medallions round the base of this exquisite piece of workmanship. It also contains some fine landscapes from the pencils of Claude, Teniers, Canaletti, Wilson, etc. The picture gallery is 45 by 25 feet. This spacious apartment is thickly covered with pictures by the old masters, among which is Rembrandt's celebrated painting of Elijah restoring the dead child to life, the most impressive in the whole collection. There are also two admirable specimens of the modern school, by H. Thompson, R.A., representing distress by sea and land.

Near Stratford Church, under an old tree, is the spot where the members for Old Sarum are elected.

Tidworth was the residence of the eccentric Edward Poore, Esq., and the manor-house is reported to have been haunted by an invisible drummer, which story forms the plot of Addison's "Drummer, or the Haunted House."

The carvings and ornaments which embellish Tisbury Church bear a strong resemblance to those that support the roof at Westminster Hall.

In Tollard Royal is a farmhouse bearing decided marks of antiquity, called King John's hunting seat (see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1811, Part ii., p. 217).

At Tottenham Park House is the beautiful genealogical pedigree of the Aylesbury family. In the library is the curious horn described by Dean Milles in vol. iii. of the "Archæologia." At Wolfe Hall, a little distance from the park, the marriage of Henry VIII. to Lady Jane Seymour was solemnized, and the wedding dinner was served up in a part of this building, then hung with tapestry, of which there are some remains.

Tytherton Calloways village deserves notice, from the peculiar circumstances attending its origin and progressive improvement (see "Beauties of Wilts," vol. ii., p. 638, also vol. iii.).

At Tytherington chapel service is performed four times in the year. Sir Richard Hoare was informed, on authority which he had no reason to doubt, that a dog, accidentally left behind and shut up

in the chapel on one of these days, was found alive ten weeks afterwards, and liberated.

Of Upton Lovel was rector Thomas Hickman, who raised a troop of horse for Charles I., for which he endured fourteen years' suffering.

At Upton Scudamore lived the Rev. Thomas Owen, distinguished Orientalist.

The first Lord Arundel of Wardour Castle, at the Battle of Gran, took the sacred Ottoman standard with his own hands, for which he was created Count of the Holy Roman Empire, 1595. Among the portraits are the heroic Lady Blanch, by Angelica Kauffman; and Sir Thomas More, after Holbein. In the study is an exquisite piece of workmanship in ivory, by Michael Angelo, of our Saviour on the Cross. In Lady Arundel's cabinet is the cross worn by Cardinal Pole, etc. In the dining parlour is a curious specimen of ancient carved oak, the "Grace cup" or "Wassel bowle," brought from Glastonbury Abbey. It is considered of true Saxon origin. In the red room is a very rich state bed, in which Kings Charles I. and II. and James II. lay when at Wardour. The chapel internally is the most beautiful private chapel in England. Near the altar is a monument to the memory of the heroic Lady Blanch and her husband.

In West Dean Church are several memorials of the Evelyn family.

Of West Knoyle was Richard Willoughby, supposed to be the "Justice Willoughby of Knoyle," in Fielding's "Tom Jones."

At Wilton was manufactured the first English carpet by Anthony Duffosy, brought from France by the Herbert family, who also established a manufactory of marble cloth here. In 1299 Sir Osborne Gifford of Fonthill stole from the nunnery two fair nuns, and ran off. Godwin and Weaver contain the curious penances for this offence. The house, says Mr. Britton, partakes more of the Roman palace than the English villa. Here is a most splendid collection of works of art. The busts amount to 175. Among the statues is a Venus sleeping, as curious as any in the collection. Among the reliefs is one singularly beautiful, of mosaic work, composed of marble of various colours, representing Hercules in the Hesperides. Here is an ancient painting of Richard II. when a youth, at his devotions, on two tablets. It was painted in 1377, and is an extremely interesting and valuable painting.

Of Zeals was Hugh Grove, who espoused the cause of Charles II., and who was beheaded A.D. 1655, *pro lege et rege*. S. T.

Picturesque Scenes in Wilts.

[1795, *Part I.*, pp. 373-375.]

Heytesbury sends two members to Parliament, and hath nothing particular to recommend it except the clothing trade carried on by Mr. Everett. There is a neat hospital for decayed people, and a

pleasant seat of the family of W. Pierce Ashe A'Court, Esq., which, from being a wintry-looking spot, by the taste of the present owner is become a delightful summer residence, as great part of the old mansion was about twelve years ago taken down and rebuilt in an elegant modern style. . . . A few miles lower down the vale, embosomed amongst lofty elms, is the venerable seat of Edmund Lambert, Esq., and near Wily that of William Moody, Esq., whose father was the gentleman that introduced the making of Wilton carpets, which, from their great beauty and bright colours, have been bought up by foreigners as well as natives of this kingdom. Continuing the ride, about seven miles farther brings you to the Earl of Pembroke's stately house.

Laycock Abbey would also afford a good plate, more especially as Mr. Grose has omitted it in his work, which is rather to be wondered at. It has braved the storm, and stands a monument of the religious zeal of our forefathers. The Countess Dowager of Shrewsbury is the present inhabitant, the situation extremely retired, and in a beautiful valley.

On the brow of the hill is Spy Park, a seat of Sir Edward Bayntun, Bart.; the prospect grand, stretching over a vast extent of country, taking in the great manufacturing towns of Melksham, Bradford, Trowbridge and Corsham; and to the left the new-built seat of Mr. Sutton, brother-in-law to Mr. Addington, the Speaker; also the houses of Mr. Awdry, Mr. Montague, Mr. Heathcote and Mr. Dickenson. It may be said the major part of the Wilts Militia are enrolled from this side of the county, and, to the credit of their officers be it spoken, no soldiers behave better in quarters or are under better discipline. No county has shown itself more loyal in the time of need, near £13,000 having been cheerfully raised in a short space of time for its defence; and the yeomen volunteers handle their arms with a precision and dexterity worthy of veterans in the service. At Studley, near Calne, all kinds of vegetables are brought to the greatest perfection, and the luxuriance of the crops is amazing; so much, that the most distant markets are often overstocked. No one should overlook so charming a place as Bowood when they travel this road, the Marquis of Lansdowne having done everything in the power of money to make it a perfect Elysium, for, without a compliment, it may be justly styled such.

His lordship, at his magnificent library in town, has erected an engine for warming it, and various experiments were made to ascertain the quality of rarified air; amongst others, it appeared by the thermometer that the temperature of this spacious apartment of 100,000 cubical feet was elevated from 40 to 55 degrees in less than an hour by means of a single fire detached from the library.

Upon an adjacent hill the country people have cut out the figure of a horse of immense size; and the soil being chalk, it is exceedingly

glaring, and visible for many miles round. Upon these heights are observed great numbers of birds called curlews and peewhits.

Near Avebury is to be seen an astonishing quantity of large stones, to all appearance growing out of the earth, and from their similitude to a flock of sheep, are usually called the Gray Wethers. Ramsbury Church would also be an acquisition to your miscellany. Colonel Read has a pretty place near this town. The manor belongs to Lady Jones, with a noble house and park. Here was shown in the autumn an aloe in full bloom, and it need not be mentioned the pleasure a florist must receive from the sight. Even in the tepid clime of Italy, where they are more common than with us, no grandee thinks his parterre properly decorated without a range of aloes. But a sight much more engaging is to behold at Froxfield a spacious almshouse for the maintenance of thirty poor widows, the building in the form of a quadrangle. May the example of the benevolent lady who so amply endowed it be followed by others, who, possessing the means, will add to it the inclination—"La charité est l'ame des vertus Chrétiennes." From Froxfield the traveller enters the forest of Savernake, where, if he has a taste for rural scenery, he will be amply gratified. The beautiful vistas formed through it by the Earl of Aylesbury as openings to Totterham Park (his lordship's seat) have a peculiar grandeur at this season, when the trees, coming into full foliage, bend under the weight of their venerable branches. The Royal family honoured this charming retreat with a visit on their return from Weymouth a few years since, and expressed themselves delighted with its beauties and the elegant reception given them. It is impossible, in speaking of Savernake, not to regret the loss it has received lately in the death of Colonel Rolt, who possessed a pretty villa within its precincts. He was formerly gentleman usher to the Princess Amelia, and retired hither to spend the remainder of his days in tranquillity and repose.

ΦΙΛΟΣ. Ε.

Wiltshire Gentry.

[1795, *Part II.*, pp. 997, 998.]

It is rather an extraordinary circumstance that from Stourhead in Wilts to Salisbury (the distance twenty-two miles) the following gentlemen of property, whose mansions appeared conspicuous on or near the road, should within the short space of fourteen years be numbered with the dead. I beg leave to enumerate them, beginning with that beneficent man :

Henry Hoare, Esq., Stourhead.

Rev. Mr. Barton, Stourhead.

Thomas Grove, Esq., Zeals.

Rev. Mr. Allis, Mere.

Rev. Mr. Nicholson, Tisbury.

— Mayne, Esq., Teffont, chiefly resided at Kensington.

William Wyndham, Esq., Dinton, a romantic-looking village eight miles from Sarum, for more than a century the seat of the family of Wyndham. In the month of April, when the orchards with which this district abounds are in bloom, a stranger would suppose he was travelling in Devon or Herefordshire. It gave birth to the famous Lord Chancellor Clarendon, and has one of the best parsonage-houses in the county, built by the late Dr. Hazeldine, and is a living in the gift of Magdalen College, Oxford. (The present Rector, Rev. Mr. Deane.)

Edward Whatmore, Esq., Marshwood.

Charles Penruddocke, Esq.

Compton Chamberlaine, late M.P. for the county.

Captain Pigot, of the same.

Sir Alexander Powel, Hurdcott.

Francis Powel, Esq., son of the above. This amiable young man in his infancy laboured under a complaint for a considerable time which no medicines could reach, till Nature at last effected what the skill of the faculty had tried in vain, for in a violent fit of coughing one day, to the surprise of everyone, he brought up a large plum-stone. After his father Sir Alexander Powel's decease, he came into possession of a plentiful estate, which enabled him to put in execution a scheme he had always meditated of making a tour to Italy. But, unfortunately for himself and friends, being exposed too long to the night air, viewing an eruption of Mount Vesuvius from a balcony at Naples, he received a shock in his constitution which, on his return to his native country, terminated in death. By his marriage with a lady of handsome fortune he has left a son, about twelve years of age.

— Pitts, Esq., Burcombe, formerly surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Henry, Earl of Pembroke, Wilton.

Thomas Baker, Esq., Bulbridge.

Rev. Mr. Hawes, Bemerton.

In your Magazine for September, p. 737, is an engraving of a seal in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Selwyn, of Ludgarshall. His conjectures concerning it are highly probable that it belonged to the personage mentioned in his account. Underneath is an extract from Grose respecting the castle of Ludgarshall :

"It was in being before the year 1141, for in that year the Empress Maud took shelter in it in her flight from Winchester to the Devizes. Here probably she made some stay, as about that time the castle of the Devizes, as we learn from William of Malmesbury, fol. 105, was in the possession of Robert Fitzhardinge, who refused to surrender it to her use.

"In the reign of King John it belonged to Geoffrey Fitzpiers,

Chief Justice of England, in the right of Beatrix, his wife, one of the coheirs of William Mandeville, Earl of Essex.

"This Geoffrey Fitzpiers was a man of vast riches and authority, and greatly instrumental in seating King John upon the throne, who, in return, on the day of his coronation created him Earl of Essex. Mathew Paris says he was generous and learned, and the main support of the nation; so that at his death (which happened anno 1213) England became like a ship without a rudder. He had the chief hand in the management of all affairs, and was more feared than loved by the king, who, when news was brought him of his death, said, 'Now I shall be king and lord in England.'"

ΦΙΛΟΣ. Ε.

Topographical Tour in Wiltshire.

[1806, *Part I.*, pp. 209-212.]

There being no complete topographical account of Wiltshire at present before the public, I am induced to trouble you with a few notes taken last summer in the north-west corner of it by

VIATOR.

MINTY

Church consists of a nave on four pointed arches, two aisles and a chancel.

In the chancel a tablet for Charles Pleydell, of Minty, the younger son of Charles Pleydell, of Midgehall, Wilts, died 1704, aged 76. Arabella, his wife, youngest daughter of Robert Lovell, of Lyscomb, Bucks, died 1704, aged 72. This tablet was erected by William Pleydell, Vicar of Wootton Bassett, son and heir.

Arms: A. a bend gules guttée of the field, between two plovers of the second, a fesse in chief chequy or, and sable; impaling A. three foxes or wolves trippant gules.

Charles Pleydell was grandson of Sir Charles Pleydell, Knight, of Midgehall, Wilts, who died 1642, having married Katherine, daughter and coheir of Thomas Bouchier, of Barnsley, co. Gloucester, fifth and youngest son but one of Charles, fifth and youngest son of Charles, ancestor to the Pleydells of Wootton Bassett (Hutchin's "Dorset," second edition, ii., 188). The living of Wootton Bassett is in the gift of Lord Hyde.

Galfridus Jenkinson, of Lincoln, A.M. of (Queen's College) Cambridge, vicar; died 1725, aged 57. (His degree of A.M. is omitted among the printed Cambridge graduates.)

In the south wall a shallow piscina:

"In the Pleydell grave Thomas Browne, heir, and daughter Arabella, only son and heir of Thomas Browne, of the parsonage at Minty, died of the cruel Small Pox, 1726, aged 18."

VOL. XXV.

13

In the north aisle a pew with a carved screen, and in it against the north wall a brass for Nicolas Powlett, Mary, Anne, Elizabeth, Mary, Edight.

Arms: A sword, a sword erect; motto, "Gardez ta foy." An arm and sword. Hungerford, with a crescent of difference.

Crest: Gerbes and sickles, and three sickles intertwined.

In the window above: *militis et dame*:

"Edmundus Webb, qui humanæ naturæ delictum exsolvit 1663."

In a vault in the north aisle:

"Robert Maskelyne, died 1793, aged 56. He was churchwarden 1776, when the gallery was erected."

On the pulpit in old capitals:

"PREACH THE WORD.

8 3 A.

BE INSTANT IN SEASON,

A.D. 1627.

W. G., R. P., CHURCHWARDENS."

On the desk door:

"WE COME UNTO GOD BY THE PRAYER OF OUR HEART.

T. S."

Round the sounding-board:

"FIDES EX AUDITIS, AUDITIS PER VERBUM DEI."

The font and shaft are octagon.

Near the upper end of the south aisle is the square base of a cross with a round socket.

Elton farm, the manor-house of the Erles.

The father of Admiral Sir William Penn was of this parish, according to Wood ("Ath. Ox," ii., 1050), where his son was born, 1621; though his epitaph in Redcliffe Church, Bristol, makes him a native of that city.

HANKERTON.

The church has a north aisle divided from the nave by pointed arches on round pillars. The north-aisle door is stopped up, and there is only one window; a high pointed door in the north side of the tower stopped. The north-west and south-west buttresses of the tower have niches, and a lion and dog and a modern shield on the west face. The south-porch door is curiously carved. There are no burials on the north side of the churchyard.

Epitaph to William Webb, of Crudwell; died 1743, aged 51.

In the chancel four round arches, pillars and capitals.

The east end of the chancel has the centre and side square window stopped. On Mr. Erle's seat, Gules, in a border engrailed a. three escalops a. single; and impaling three swords, two point downward and one in the middle reversed, A. hilted or, and gules—Rawlinson;

a chevron dancetty between four billets or. The swords quartering the escalops with a shield of pretence, paly of four, or and azure ; in chief azure a griffin gradant or.

Erle with shield of pretence, impaling the swords with a chief indented gules, a pile and chevron or, counterchanged.

Benefactions, 1775, collected together £52, £59 3s. 6d., old South Sea annuities. Gyles Earle, Esq., James Gyles, Vicar, and three other parishioners, trustees for the benefit of the poor.

Lady Winchelsea, 20s. per annum to the second poor of Hankerton and Clotby for books, and the residue on schooling poor children.

Inscription to

"Gyles Earle, of Estcourt, died Aug. 20, 1758, aged 80.

"He married (1) Elizabeth, daughter to Sir William Rawlinson, knt., and had Eleanor and William Rawlinson, who died 1777, aged 72, and was buried near his sister in the vault of his grandfather, Sir William, at Hendon, Middlesex. He married Susan, daughter of William White, of Somerford, Wilts, and had four children, Gyles, Eleanor, Elizabeth, and Susan, buried at Hendon. Erected by his widow, 1771."

Sir William Rawlinson was Serjeant-at-Law, and one of the Commissioners of the Great Seal ; died 1705, and has a monument in Hendon Church (Lysons, iii. 8). Lady R. died at Ealing (*ibid.*, ii. 30).

The font is octagon, adorned with roses.

The pulpit-cloth blue and gold, and on it M. W., 1661, and a gerbe.

The screen of the chancel supports the singing gallery.

The patronage is doubtful, whether in the Earl of Suffolk or the Rector of Crudwell, who presented himself to it 17—.

CRUDWELL.

A village adjoining to Hankerton. The church is a handsome building, with a rich stone south porch, two aisles, in which are three lancets, and the remains of a beautiful window representing the seven Sacraments in six compartments.

In the centre of the uppermost our Saviour in glory, hands elevated and marks of the five wounds.

In another a bishop with a crosier and book, people praying to him, and broken words *Ecce . . . sacerdos*.

Ecce Johannes. A man at a reading-stand, his son and daughter at corners.

Extrema. A sick man sitting up in his bed with the wafer on his breast ; a woman supporting him. A man with a candle before him, another offering him a box.

In another a marriage, the man and woman, and two behind, and the priest.

In the south aisle is a piscina, the arch in form of a half quatrefoil.

The west window and that of the middle aisle are rich. In the tracery, barry of five, a. and gules, a star in chief, a star, sable or, gules, three balls a. twice.

Barry wavy, or, and azure, four times.

The font is hexagon.

Daniel Hartford, B.D., Rector 1679. He was of Magdalen College, Oxford; M.A., 1661; B.D., 1671.

"Hic obdormiunt in D'no placidè Margareta virgo, mater amabilis 1711, Maria."

In the chancel:

"Thomas Sharing, A.M., Rector of Crudwell, Vicar of Hankerton; of Baliol College, Oxford, olim socius dignissimus; qui immaturè omnibus nisi sibi moriebatur, Oct. 18, 1718.

"Jana conjux optima, Sept., 1720."

South aisle. A little slab like a coffin-lid from the churchyard, inscribed "G. R., 1632."

Chancel:

"Wife and daughter of George Harewell, clerk, 1772."

Communion plate. "Cup of Crudwell, 1628; the gift of Margaret Jeener, 1688."

On a seat in the south aisle is carved the arms of England and France, supported by lion and griffin.

Rectors.

Lord Ingram.

James Gyles, brother-in-law to the lord of the manor.

James Wigget; twenty-three years has held the rectory in his own presentation. He is of Clare Hall; A.B., 1778; A.M., 1781.

George Hartwell, or Hasted, A.B., Rector of Steventon, Berks, 1763; in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

Benefactions.

Mrs. Dorothy Calthorp, £12, £462, and Goodenough Erle, heir of late William, advanced £120, £582, together £662, old South Sea annuities; Erle and Rev. James Giles, Rector, trustees, and by paying legacy of £50 and £70 for thirty-five years' interest of it.

CHARLTON.

The church consists of a nave on three round pillars with Saxon capitals, each different from the other.

Matthew Witley, vicar 1670.

Richard Bewick, M.A., vicar from May 1, 1670, to May 22, 1705.

John Hollinworth, curate and vicar thirty-two years, died 1800, aged 63.

On a bend three holly leaves ; crest, a stag couchant or :

"Honourable James Grahme, second son to Sir George G., bart., of Netherby, Cumberland ; born at Norton Coniers, Yorkshire, in March, 1649, servant to King Charles and King James II. ; lived and died an unworthy but true member of the Church of England ; faithful to both his masters, and a sincere friend. Died January the 26th, and was buried on Monday the 2d of February, 1729-30."

Or, in a chief gules, three escalops or.

Freestone monument of a man, with a man and woman in ruff, and one man and two women kneeling, and two women.

John Gastrell, 1694.

Jane, daughter of John and Jane Gastrell, 1700.

"The vertuous matron, Joshnan Pitman, wife of Robert Taylor, died relict and widow of Richard Pitman, 1674.

"John Taylor, his son, who was deprived of this life by unpitying Death, 1673."

The font is circular, with two mouldings or wreaths of buds ; and at the sides niches.

Benefactions to Charlton.

Anne, wife of Thomas Hackwell, daughter of John Raymond, of Cirencester, 1664.

Lady Winchcomb, 1706, for lands at Hankerton, to buy books for the instruction of poor children of Charlton.

Her sister gave a field at Brokenborough of 7 acres, 3 roods, 33 perches, adjoining to the land of the Earl of Suffolk, Earl Radnor, and John Sparrow, to the second poor of the parish for ever.

In this parish is the mansion-house of the Earl of Suffolk. It was begun by Theophilus Howard, first Earl of Suffolk, on a quadrangular plan, which had been burnt by the Parliamentary forces in the Civil War ; and his son Thomas dying before it was finished, his widow sold the materials, and it remains incomplete. The area of the quadrangle is covered in with a dome for a music-room, and the boards of the gallery floor not nailed down. In it are the following whole-length portraits of the family :

Elizabeth Howard, daughter* of Thomas, Earl of Suffolk, Countess of Berkshire ; a handkerchief in her right hand.

Richard Sackville, Earl of Dorset, son of Lady Margaret Howard, daughter of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk. (He died 1624.)

Sir Edward Sackville, Bart., brother to Richard, Earl of Dorset, who succeeded him in the Earldom 1613, æt. 24. (He died 1652.)

Isabella, Lady Cary, daughter of the Earl of Wick— ; smiling countenance, right hand on a chair, in a flowered gown and sash.

William Howard, Earl of Berkshire, gray head and beard.

Lady Dorothy Cary, sister to Isabella, Countess of Oxford ; exactly like the Countess of Stamford ; a negro face.

Charles I. with a mastiff.

* Query, if not misread for *wife* of Thomas, Earl of Suffolk, she being daughter of William, Earl of Exeter ?

Laudesque manebunt.

A lady, 1566.

Lord Howard, in regimentals, died 1803 or 1804.

Head of Elizabeth Cecil, Countess of Berkshire, when young. She was daughter of William, Earl of Exeter, and wife of the first Earl of Berkshire.

In the dining-parlour :

Catiline's Conspiracy.

Whole-length of the Earl of Essex, in brown gloves, hat and ribbon in his right hand.

His lady in blue satin ; flirting her fan ; a rose at her breast.

In the enclosed court of the quadrangle or music-room :

The Raising of Lazarus ; brought by the present Earl from Italy.

Portrait of Mary Queen of Scots.

Lady Suffolk, by Holbein.

Late Lord Warrington, 1747.

Henry Bowes, Earl of Berkshire.

A pike, 3 feet 10 inches ; thirty-five pounds weight ; caught in Bredon Park, March 30, 1752.

Henry Bowes, Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire : rough red beaver ; hunting at a distance ; and view like St. Michael's Mount and town.

A female head between rose and fleur-de-lis, each crowned ; at breast a pelican, in her elevated left hand a cross of jewels, chains of pearl, a ring on her thumb.

An admiral in armour ; ships in the off skip ; probably Thomas, the first Earl of Suffolk, who commanded several fleets against Spain.

Sir Jerome Bowes, ambassador from Queen Elizabeth to the Emperor of Russia, 1583. (He was probably of the family of Bowes of Elford, Staffordshire, who by marriage, 1683, conveyed it to the Howards ; though he is not noticed in Shaw's " Account of Elford," i. 381.)

Countess of Exeter ; ring and thread in her left hand ; in right hand a laced handkerchief ; leaning on a chair shaped like the ancient Curule chair.

Rev. Mr. Gaskarth, Rector of Banbury, when a boy, with a dog. His sister married the present earl, and is represented in a picture, with her two sisters, a pigeon, dove, etc.

In the library the Duchess of Newcastle in a laced ruff and ruffles ; her right hand over a cushion in a chair of the above form.

The rapid succession in this family—seven descents since Thomas, first Earl of Suffolk, and Grand Treasurer of England—has prevented this house from being finished.

OAKSEY,

a village adjoining to Charlton. The manor belonged to — Westley, an army tailor, who left it with Kemble to his two daughters, co-

heiresses, married to — Anderson and — Cox, who divided the property, which the latter was prevented from settling on a second wife.

The church consists of a nave, with two aisles and chancel, divided from each other by a round arch. The south aisle has three arches on round pillars; five clerestory windows. In a north window remains of a painting of the seven Sacraments as at Crudwell, in which may be distinguished the Virgin and Child, and two bishops.

At the east end of the north side of the nave is a pew with old carving round it, and on the east face of it a shield with an inscription in relief, as engraved in Plate II., Fig. 1; and on another a man's face with the tongue out.

In the chancel :

"Hic subtus jacet reliquie Roberti Dalton, qui Collegii Regin. Oxon. alumnus olim et socius, A.M., et quod magis est, antiquæ pietatis cultor, strenuus ecclesiæ hujus per 17 annos rector; paucis notus, corpore debilis, mente vegetus, virtutum ferax, ecclesiæ ornamentum, vitæ et voce præco, nullo non dignus elogio viro digno, quod nullo se dignum existimavit, fatis cessit, 17 Aug. MDCLXXXVII."

In the north side of the chancel an arch with half trefoil work and a bouquet. The font is square, on a circular shaft.

"Hic jacet Jeremiah Hewer, L.L.B., resurrectionem expectans beatam; natus Cirencestræ apud Glocestrenses, Oxoniæ literis imbutus, hujus ecclesiæ rector, in Kemble vicarius, pius, probus; Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ filius obsequentissimus, vicinis amicis, omnibus humanus, ætatis satur morte obiit April 10, 1760; ætat 81."

The present rector is Dr. William Smith, of New College.

In a field south of the church is a square area moated and banked, a mount at the north-east corner; and north of that more square banks, as of gardens, and a distant mount by itself at the north end of the field.

CHIPPENHAM.

Much of the nave of the church has been rebuilt. The round arch into the chancel is charged with dentals; the columns are clustered, but no arches.

Against the east end of the south aisle an epitaph with this :

"Nuptiæ replent terram,
Virginitas paradysum."

Alderton.

[1844, *Part I.*, p. 154.]

I am informed, on authority which I cannot question, that the church of Alderton or Aldrington, in Wiltshire, is being diligently pulled to pieces, and that the monuments, many of the family of Gore, long resident in that parish, have been cast down and mutilated

in a most disgraceful manner, and this almost under the eye, and close to the subject of the first topographical essay of a Wiltshire society whose members claim to be the votaries of John Aubrey.

L.

Amesbury.

[1796, *Part I.*, p. 6.]

A more retired spot could not have been chosen for the purpose of contemplation and seclusion from the world than Amesbury, in Wiltshire. The Duke of Queensbury, with leave of Government, having granted his fine place for the use of some English ladies—nuns from a convent in Flanders, who fled to England from the persecutions of that unhappy country; they possess an ample revenue, from the interest of a considerable sum lodged in the bank of Vienna, which is regularly remitted to them. From habits of solitude they enjoy their situation, as nothing could have been more distressing, from their living so long together, if destiny had obliged them to separate. The gardens are laid out in a very pretty taste, with buildings after the manner of the Chinese, with a beautiful wood, interspersed with laburnums and other flowering shrubs, crowning the summit of the park, and which is seen from the windows of the house; a noble stream meanders through the grounds, from which trout of an astonishing size and fine flavour are taken, and conveyed to Salisbury market and the families of the neighbourhood.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have honoured the nunnery with a visit; and it is said, for want of better fare at the George Inn, the Princess for the first time partook of an English rasher, a regale to which, no doubt, the keen air of the downs greatly contributed.

Such was the retreat of the late Duke and Duchess of Queensbury, who lived in friendship with and admired the abilities of a Thurlow, a nobleman who has on so many occasions proved himself the friend of his King and country. They were the well-known patrons of Gay, and erected a monument to his memory in Westminster Abbey. . . .

It may not be amiss to mention that the great Mr. Addison was born in the year 1671 at Milston, two or three miles from Amesbury, where his father, Dr. Lancelot Addison, was rector, and received the rudiments of his education at the free Grammar School, in Castle Street, Salisbury, of which the Rev. Mr. Evans is the present master, appointed by the corporation; and that Mr. Addison, from his connection and knowledge of this part of the country, and the story of a demon infesting Mr. Mompession's house at Tidworth, imbibed the first idea of writing a tragedy called "The Drummer; or, the Haunted House."

ΦΙΛΟΣ. Ε.

Ansty.

[1799, *Part II.*, p. 641.]

I send you a view of the small rural church of Ansty, in Wiltshire, which, though it cannot boast of any great beauty, yet seems, by its very remote antiquity, to claim a place in the *Gentleman's Magazine* (Plate I., Fig. 2).

The village of Ansty is about fourteen miles west of Salisbury, and situated near the great road from that city to Shaftesbury and the western counties. The manor of Ansty has been in the possession of the ancestors of Lord Arundel ever since the year 800, as his lordship can prove by some old deeds. The church is, without exception, the most ancient in the diocese. It is a rectory which has been in the hands of the Arundel family for several centuries, having been granted to them by the abbess of Shaftesbury a hundred years before the Reformation for the sum of twenty marks.

I find in the list of religious houses at the time of the Dissolution that there was a hospital at Ansty valued at £81 8s. 5d. I presume that it stood near the church, where an old barn, with Gothic windows and other evident marks of antiquity, remains to this day, and seems to have been part of it.

ANTIQUARIUS RUSTICUS.

Avebury.

[1806, *Part II.*, p. 600.]

The annexed view (Fig. 1) contains a detached portion of Avebury. It would be difficult to find a situation which, owing to the intervening houses of the village, could command the whole.

WILLIAM HAMPER.

Berwick St. Leonard.

[1805, *Part II.*, pp. 1204, 1205.]

In a late excursion into Wilts I was induced by the venerable appearance of a large old mansion near the road to inquire to whom it belonged. Finding that it had been the residence of the respectable family of Howe, and that our glorious deliverer King William III. had lodged here in his march from Torbay to London, my curiosity was roused to take a nearer survey of the house and the adjoining church, in the hope of meeting with some memorial of the former possessors of this demesne. The house is situated in a secluded valley about a mile from the town of Hindon, in the parish of Berwick St. Leonard. The external appearance of the building is handsome and uniform, and I should suppose, from the windows and parapet walls, that it was erected about the age of James or Charles I. No alteration seems to have been made in the arrangements of the rooms and furniture for many years. It is said, and I

believe with truth, that they remain the same as when King William was entertained here in the year 1688. Some of the pictures, I am told, were removed by the late Mr. Lee Warner to his house at Walsingham. But there are still some tolerable pictures of the Howe family, a good whole length of Sir Harbottle Grimstone, another of his lady, and some small landscapes. The state bed has been religiously preserved in the same state as when it had the honour to receive King William.

By the death of Sir James Howe, the last baronet, the male line of this family became extinct, and this house and a fine estate in the neighbourhood devolved to his nephew, Mr. Lee Warner, of Walsingham, by whose son it had lately been left to Daniel Henry Woodward, Esq., of Bath, who has since taken the name of Lee Warner. This gentleman is the son of a Mrs. Woodward, of Bristol, who was a daughter of a Mr. Huntley, of Boxwell, in the county of Gloucester, and, I believe, either a niece or great-niece of Sir James Howe. . . . In Berwick Church, which is a very small, ancient building very near the mansion, is a monument to the memory of the father of the first baronet of the Howe family.

"Neere this place lyeth interred the body of George Howe, of Berwick St. Leonard, in the county of Wilts, esq., who married Dorothy, the daughter of Humphry Clark, of Bradgate, in the county of Kent, esq., by whom he had issue two sonnes, viz., George Grobham Howe, who married Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir Harbottle Grimstone, of Bradfield-hall, in the county of Essex, bart., and John Howe; and one daughter, Margaret Grobham Howe, who married John Still, of Shafsbury, in the county of Dorset, Esq. The abovesaid George Howe, having lived religiously to the age of 58 years, put on immortalitie on the seventeenth of December Anno D'ni 1647."

Arms above the inscription: O. a fess between three wolves' heads, s. a crescent for difference, impaling G. 3 swords erect arg. hilted or.

Upon a hatchment: Howe as above, with arms of Ulster, impaling Arg. on a fess s. 3 mullets or, in dexter chief, one ermine spot.

On another hatchment: the same arms in a lozenge.

Upon another hatchment, for Sir Geo. G. Howe and Lady, quarterly: 1. Howe, as above, with arms of Ulster; 2. G. a lion passant ermine; 3. G. 3 swords erect arg. hilted or; 4. Arg. on a fess s. 3 mullets or; in dexter chief, 1 ermine spot, an inescutcheon barry of 8 arg. and az. over all a lion rampant; impaling in chief, per fess az. and erm. a pale countercharged, and 3 pheons or, in base, barry of 8 arg. and az. over all a lion rampant g. Crest: a dexter hand armed proper, holding a sword erect, on the blade a wolf's head of the field.

The church contains nothing else worth notice.

Z.

Biddeston.

[1838, *Part II.*, pp. 142, 143.]

By the favour of Mr. Walker we are enabled to embellish our pages with views of two singular turrets attached to the churches of St. Peter and St. Nicholas, at Biddeston, and which form part of the embellishments of his able illustration of the mansion of the Longs at South Wraxhall. Mr. Walker's description of the turrets is as follows :

"It will be seen that that of St. Nicholas is, in point of style, much older than that of St. Peter's, which latter comes under the denomination of Perpendicular English, while the former, from the string course under the spire downwards, is decidedly Norman. The one seems to have been copied from the other, and most probably the original design was executed on the old church of St. Peter's, which must have been pulled down, and has thus been perpetuated. Whether this was the primitive form of the bell turret in Saxon times would be a curious inquiry and not without interest. In Plate XXXII. of the *Benedictionale* of St. Ethelwold, engraved in vol. xxiv. of the '*Archæologia*,' is the representation of a bell turret containing several bells, and the form of the open part, in which the bells are hung, is by no means unlike these. And at Binsey, near Oxford, is a similar one, 'part of which,' Ingram says, 'may be older than the Norman Conquest.' There are two other churches in the immediate neighbourhood of Biddeston which have bell turrets built upon the same plan—viz., Corston and Leigh Delamere. There is also one at Acton-Turville, on the borders of Gloucestershire, between Badminton and Corsham, and one at Boxwell, in the same county.

"The attention of the author was called to these churches by C. W. Loscombe, Esq., an ingenious antiquary, who considers that they were of Saxon origin. He says : 'Finding churches with these peculiar characteristics so widely scattered over the country, all of them exhibiting ornaments of the earliest period, and differing so much in general from those we know to be Norman buildings, the inference I draw is that they must be referred to the fashion of a time and not of a locality, and that this must be the Saxon'" (p. 19).

In the design of these bell turrets the ingenuity with which the architects of our ancient edifices encountered every difficulty is fully displayed. To raise a steeple, or even a turret of the smallest description, over an acutely-pointed gable is, to say the least, a task requiring the exercise of considerable ingenuity ; it has been a matter of great perplexity to modern architects, as many of the new churches plainly evince. But, curious as the workmanship and design of the turrets is, we cannot go so far as to attribute to either of them an antiquity so high as the Saxon period. It is difficult to

say what was the form of the bell turrets of that period, or, indeed, of Norman structures, where a tower was not used. It may be even questionable whether the smaller churches had any turrets. The bell may have been suspended on a beam in the interior, and the window, which is invariably seen high up in the gable, have been constructed to allow of the egress of the sound. We do not recollect an instance of an original Norman bell turret. The well-preserved Norman church at Nateley Scures has a modern bell turret of wood, and so has the equally perfect Norman church of Wiston, in Suffolk. Little Tey, in Essex, has a turret of a similar description. Copford, in Essex, has an old wooden tower on the apex of the roof, with a dwarf spire, and the ruined church of Maplescombe, in Kent, in common with most of the smaller Norman examples, has a window in the upper part of the gable, the presence of which seems to forbid the construction of a turret on the apex. The highly enriched Norman church of Barfreton, in the same county, has no bell turret of any description. In structures of pointed and also of Norman architecture of early date a belfry is very common, consisting of one, two, or even three open arches, covered with a gable, and raised either on the wall of the west end of the nave or that which divides the nave and chancel. Such of these turrets as have come under our observation are of pointed architecture, and their simplicity seems to indicate an earlier period than the more elaborate turrets of Biddeston. . . .

It does not appear to us that there is any great difference in the age of the turrets. St. Nicholas's may be anterior by a few years to the other, but we cannot assign either to the Norman period. The torus worked in the angle of a pier is a feature equally of Early Pointed architecture as of the Norman style; it would therefore appear that no necessity exists for referring the turret of St. Peter's Church to an earlier period than those portions of the existing structure which, Mr. Walker says, show "the early English arch and ornament." The spire may have partaken of the repairs and alterations to which the rest of the church has been subjected.

E. I. C.

Box.

[1831, *Part I.*, pp. 596-598.]

I venture to call the attention of your readers to a remarkably shaped hill overlooking the village of Box called Tautney Hill, and to suggest whether it has not been anciently dedicated to the Celtic Mercury Tot, as a presiding deity to a British settlement in the valley beneath. The probability is that the site of the Parish Church was formerly the seat of Druidical rites, and the fine spring of water which bursts out beside the church, "the sacred Druidical spring so intimately connected with the Celtic worship of the god Taut"; the tradition of the place being that

there had been formerly found baths supplied from this "sacred spring," which had been considered to have been Roman. There are reasons why the Romans would probably be induced to venerate this spot, and remains have very lately been discovered which verify the tradition. I am not aware that this village has previously been pointed out as having any remains demonstrating that the Romans once were resident here, which appears, however, undoubtedly to have been the case; for it is said, besides the baths above-mentioned, that several beautiful tessellated pavements had formerly been found in the churchyard and gardens adjoining, but no spot could be pointed out where the same might with certainty be found, and the tradition was considered therefore as vague and unworthy attention. It is reasonable to suppose that lamentable ignorance occasioned, or at least did not prevent their destruction as soon as discovered; for a year or two ago, in a garden belonging to Mr. Mullins adjoining the churchyard, in making some addition to a very old building, the workmen in sinking for a foundation struck upon the mutilated remains of a tessellated pavement about 2 or 3 feet below the surface of the ground. It appeared to have been part of a large square, and the part now discovered was evidently one of its corners. It had a wide ornamental border of no remarkable beauty, but what I particularly recollect (the few moments I had opportunity of seeing it) was that there were evident effects of repeated fires having been made, apparently about the middle of the square; for the tesserae toward the centre were burnt from their original colours to a brick-red, and the redness diminished in intensity as it approached the border, near which the colours were again all perfect.

This pavement must have been discovered when the old building was erected, for it appeared to run under its foundation, and if so, the remainder must have been then destroyed. The portion of it lately found, however, was considered worthy of preservation, and has been, it is hoped, safely secured from injury by means of large flag-stones carefully placed over it. In the adjoining garden, belonging to the same individual, is an ornamental fish-pond, in the middle of which, many years ago, was a small island, and communication with it was effected by planks supported on long stones set upright in the water. Though the island has long since been removed (by the grandfather of the present owner), one of the stones was left standing upright in the water, and so remained till a late summer, when, the water being let out of the pond, the stone was pushed down, and immediately under it (embedded in the soil on which it had for so many years stood), were found very many Roman tesserae of different colours and sizes, some of which I have now by me. This pond had been for some centuries back a mill-head or dam to an overshot wheel; and "Boxe mill," mentioned in

the "Monasticon" as belonging to Farley Monastery, I have no doubt was situated near this spot, and driven by the water from this pond. Little remains of a mill are now visible here, excepting the place of the overshot wheel, and the circumstance that very many old-fashioned mill-stones are to be seen in the pavements about the premises. To the protection of this stone from the effect of the continual washing of the water must be ascribed the preservation for so long a period of these Roman tesserae in so singular a situation, and which contribute not a little to the support of the traditions above mentioned. Future investigations may make greater and more worthy discoveries ; but these, the first fruits, are sufficient to show that the Romans undoubtedly settled in this rural and delightful spot.

Some little addition is now making to the church on the south side, and the excavations made in consequence will not altogether disappoint the expectations of the antiquary ; but remains other than Roman have been brought to light. Against the west wall of the church have stood, time immemorial, two large stone coffins, each hewn out of a solid piece of freestone, similar to what abounds in the neighbouring hills, and of which considerable quantities are sent to the Metropolis under the name of Bath stone. Externally these coffins are similar, both in shape and size ; but internally, one of them, instead of the stone having been chiselled out, and the sides made uniformly of the same thickness, there is merely sufficient stone removed to admit the corpse for which it was intended, and consequently the internal space thus left resembles the outline of the human form. Both coffins have a round hole through the part forming the bottom, and they appear to have been originally made so. On the removal of the ground on the above occasion from beside the south wall, other similar coffins have been found placed lengthways in a row, which apparently had been placed there out of the way when the present church was built, which is comparatively a modern structure. A notification on the west wall of the church tells us an earlier one was finished about A.D. 1200 ; and this acquires corroboration from the church being dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, who was in great repute as a saint among the people about this time ; besides, there was a well, now covered over, if not filled up, on the hill beside the road immediately leading down to the church, which was called Becket's Well ; and it is not improbable but on some occasion he refreshed himself there and blessed it. The Popish ceremonies of procession to the church and subsequent revelry on the anniversary of the day of dedication, July 7, when this day happened on a Sunday, otherwise on the Sunday next following, are to this day most religiously observed, and Box Revel is annually celebrated, though the origin of its institution is by the many forgotten.

Whether the stone coffins above mentioned were first disturbed in

erecting the church of A.D. 1200, or at the building of the present one, cannot probably be ascertained, but as no remains were found in them, and no lid covering them, it seems most likely that the earliest date must be assigned for the period of their first violation. I have heard that on an examination of the vaults under the church some time since, similar stone coffins were found to have been used in the construction of these vaults, and that others placed upright were converted into supports for the flooring of the church. To what period do these coffins relate?

I have given instances of Celtic and Roman remains in this parish, and must conclude with an allusion only to some Saxon. On a tract called the ridge, or commonly ridge-side, is a small hamlet called Wadswic. What is this but the "wic" (*i.e.*, dwelling-place) of the great Saxon god Woden. Wodenswic also affords us another instance that the earliest preachers of the Gospel in this isle generally erected a place for Christian worship on most of the spots which they found had been of old sacred to the idolatrous religion of their new converts. In this place there are the remains of a small chapel, now forming part of a barn, which is called the Chapel of Plaster; and though the present remains prove the chapel to have been last constructed of substantial stone-work, yet its name tells plainly what was the nature of its original construction; and, indeed, many of our monasteries, for instance Stanley Abbey, were on their first erection constructed of no better materials than lath and plaster. The Chapel of Plaster was formerly used as a resting-place for the monks journeying from Malmesbury Abbey to that of Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, and was probably rebuilt by them in stone, the remains of which I lament old Time is quickly bringing into decay.

J. M.

Bradenstoke.

[1833, *Part II.*, pp. 401-403.]

The picturesque remains of Bradenstoke Priory stand on a commanding situation, about five miles distant from Wotton Bassett, and seven from Chippenham. The foundation originated with the family of the early Earls of Salisbury, whose heiress became the foundress of the neighbouring nunnery of Lacock. The Rev. W. L. Bowles, whose residence and works have rendered classical the village of Bremhill in the same vicinity, is now employed in writing the history of Lacock Nunnery; and he has permitted us to extract from his unpublished sheets the following vivid description of the present appearance and situation of the priory of Bradenstoke:

"The windows, buttresses, and lofty parapet, with one square turret on the north, appear through almost the whole extent of the vale of the Avon beneath. In front, and on either side, this extent spreads to the distant horizon, bounded by the hazy appearance at

times of the Cambrian Hills beyond the Severn. Parts of Somerset, Gloucestershire, and Berkshire, intersected by the winding Avon, with long green pastures, lie beneath as in a map. The picturesque village of Draycot is distinguished by a rising knoll of woods in front ; and immediately on the right, as a foreground, is another hilly eminence, dark with oak, almost under our feet.

"The ancient arches of the principal building, now partly dilapidated and partly used as a farmhouse, are entire ; the buttresses are connected by semi-circular arches, and between them appear three narrow pointed windows. On the square turret, on the north, grows one small solitary tree, which I find represented in the view engraved by Buck, a little more than a century ago. At a small distance on the level green, at the back of the house, are two large fish-ponds ; one, with the spring perpetually running, I have no doubt from the transparent clearness, and from its always flowing in the driest season, gave an idea of sacredness to the spot. Near this is a large mound, but whether ancient or not I have not ascertained. On entering, the cellars appear, with groined vaulting ; and ascending a small stone staircase, we enter a room which probably was that of the prior ; in this room there is a chimney-piece of stone, richly carved and ornamented, with five plain shields in the centre of quatrefoils, the lower part beautifully worked in lozenges, and the letters distinctly visible and legible, 'W. L.' This carved and still entire chimney-piece is surmounted with a kind of bracket in the middle, probably for a crucifix.

"The refectory seems nearly as it was left at the Dissolution ; in the centre of the ceiling there is a wooden boss, with foliage, and the single letter in a shield, 'S' ; probably when the room was last decorated, immediately before the Dissolution, this letter was to commemorate the name of 'Salisbury.'

"In this room was preserved uninjured through many changes of owners, a painting on paper of the Virgin, now added to the collection of my friend Paul Methuen, Esq., at Corsham House.

"On returning from these silent and ancient halls to the light, the scene I have described seems more beautiful, spreading far away, with masses of shade and sunshine, and the smoke and towers of distant villages. The most conspicuous object in sight, so far as human art is concerned, presents itself among the far-retiring trees—the gray walls and solitary arch of Malmesbury Abbey, the majestic but mournful mother of the religious houses, now desolate, near the margin of the same stream.

"Nothing can be conceived more wretched in appearance than the present village, which, as if in ludicrous contrast with these beauties of scenery and those august remains, is called 'Clack.*' It contains about forty straggling houses, and three miserable brick

* The ancient name of the manor was "Clake."

edifices, the meeting-houses for some religious denomination or other, which have succeeded the princely monuments of elder piety.

"All the traces of a church or chapel have been long obliterated, but the site has been ascertained from Norman tiles, skeletons occasionally disinterred, and about eight or nine years ago, nearly twenty skeletons; two only were found in stone coffins, and one as if the corpse had been completely cased in leather. No remains have been discovered which might seem to indicate the sculpture of those who were first laid here, in the presumed sanctity of the consecrated earth and the awful inviolability of death. The bones of Walter of Salisbury and his beloved wife, and those of William Earl of Salisbury and his Countess Alianor, have been scattered to the winds, and no more has been found to distinguish them than of the heart of the youngest son of the Countess Ela, which was, probably from peculiar feelings of devotional respect, here also buried. This youngest son of Ela was Stephen, by marriage Earl of Ulster."

The date of the foundation of Bradenstoke Priory has been fixed to 1142; and its inhabitants were Canons Regular of the order of St. Augustine. The founder, Walter of Salisbury, was the son and heir of Edward of Salisbury, who was Sheriff of Wiltshire at the period of the Domesday Survey, and father of Patrick, the first who was invested with the earldom of that county, or of Salisbury, by the Empress Maud. Walter's wife was Sibilla de Cadurcis, or Chaworth, after whose death he himself assumed the tonsure and the habit of the canons; and the bodies of himself and wife were finally deposited at Bradenstoke in one tomb, next the presbyterium, or chancel.

Patrick Earl of Salisbury, his son, being slain in Poitou, was buried at St. Hilarier in that country; but William Earl of Salisbury, the founder's grandson, who died in 1196, and his wife Alianor de Vitri, who deceased two years before, were both buried at Bradenstoke, under a marble stone near the porch; as was the body of Petronilla de Longespé, which was deposited at the right side of her grandmother the Countess Alianor; and the heart of Stephen Earl of Ulster, nephew to the lady last mentioned, his body being interred at Lacock. All this, and much other curious information, which there can be no doubt will be displayed to the best advantage by Mr. Bowles, is preserved in the register of Lacock Nunnery.

There is not space on the present occasion to enter into any account of the territorial possessions of the house of Bradenstoke; but a cartulary which belonged to it, now in the British Museum (Cotton MSS., Vitellius, A. xi.) presents ample materials for such an investigation. At the valuation of its estates in the 26 Henry VIII. its gross income was estimated at £270 10s. 8d. It was surrendered by the Prior and thirteen monks, January 8, 1539; and subsequently granted in exchange, in 38 Henry VIII., to Richard Pexall.

About a century ago the building was the property of Germanicus Sheppard, Esq., and it now belongs to Paul Methuen, Esq., M.P., of Corsham House.

The view, engraved by S. and N. Buck in 1732, is dedicated to Mr. Sheppard. It represents considerably more of the building than is now standing, particularly a large square window, in the latest style of Pointed architecture, under which was a row of nine shields, which the Messrs. Buck have transferred to their copper with a minuteness so rare in modern artists, that it is an agreeable surprise to be enabled nearly to decipher their bearings. The following is the result of a careful examination :

1. A Calvary cross or staff within two wreaths, probably the arms of the abbey, but of which no other memorial seems to be preserved.
2. On a cross, five annulets or wreaths.
3. France and England.
4. Checky (Warren).
5. Three ostrich feathers? (Prince of Wales.)
6. A cipher or monogram, apparently W. S., the initials of William, now the last Prior, with whose era the architecture of this bay window corresponds. The letters in the interior, mentioned by Mr. Bowles, perhaps refer to the same person.
7. Three lions?
8. An orle?

9. Paly, argent and vair, on a chief a lion. This is the coat attributed to "Devereux, Earl of Salisbury," the family of the founder, but there is good reason to conclude that they were extinct before the use of any arms, and particularly of a coat so complicated.

It seems, indeed, to be a question whether this race were really descended from the Norman house of Devereux, as they have generally been reputed, or whether Edward of Salisbury, whose name is Saxon, and who is admitted by the chronicler of Lacock to have been "*natione Anglus*," was not of Saxon lineage, and connected with the Norman house merely out of compliment by the same monkish chronicler. This question will be fully discussed by Mr. Bowles in his forthcoming volume.

We conclude with a list of the Priors of Bradenstoke, far more complete than that printed in the new "*Monasticon*," and which has been gleaned from the cartulary before mentioned by a gentleman who has spent considerable time upon the subject, principally with a view of investigating the history of Seagry, one of the estates of the Priory, and respecting which we hope he will take a future opportunity to make public the result of his labours :

1. William, 1204.
2. Simon, 1222.
3. Simeon, 1236.
4. William, 1246.

5. Galfridus, or Geoffrey, 1262.
 6. John, date uncertain, but between 1262 and 1272.
 7. John de Todenham, 1274.
 8. Geoffrey de Aspale, 1283.
 9. Hugo, 1306.
 10. Richard de Best, 1328.
 11. Richard, 1343.
 12. Robert, 1407.
 13. Thomas Walsh, 1515.
 14. William Snow, Prior at the Dissolution in 1538-39. He was then assigned a pension of £60, and in 1542 appointed the first Dean of the new Protestant Cathedral of Bristol. He died in 1551.
- J. T. H.

Bremhill.

[1814, *Part II.*, pp. 203, 204.]

Bremhill is the parsonage and the abode of a poet of no small eminence, of one whose correct taste has worked only on the classical models, despising all modern tricks—of William Lisle Bowles. It is a village situated on a hill, about two miles north of Calne in Wilts. The church, a venerable Gothic structure with a tower, stands just south-west of the village, and the rectory, a stone house of the same character, is exactly south of that on a small terrace, commanding a most beautiful view, with the hill immediately sloping from it towards the south. In this view the principal objects are the hills and downs between Marlborough and Calne. In front Oldborough Hill with the ancient camp and the modern White Horse, executed by Mr. Alsop, now of Calne; somewhat nearer is the town of Calne, with its fine tower; and to the right the majestic woods and hills of Bowood, the residence of the Marquis of Lansdowne. A garden of about two acres spreads itself immediately before the house, always a beautiful spot, now embellished by the taste and immortalized by the verses of the owner. . . .

Turning to the left from the house, you go through a rustic arch, which leads to the eastern view. The objects here are pleasing, but not distinct, and coming to a handsome tree, you naturally turn to contemplate it. Looking to the west from this tree, the whole extent of Bowood immediately meets the eye, in allusion to which, you find the following elegant inscription affixed :

“When in thy sight another's vast domain
Spreads its long line of woods, dost thou complain?
Nay, rather thank the God that plac'd thy state
Above the lowly, but beneath the great :
And still His name with gratitude revere
Who bless'd the Sabbath of thy leisure here.
Deus nobis hæc otia fecit.”—W. L. B.

These lines evidently express the feeling of the poet himself, but may be applied by others according to their circumstances. A few steps further stands a small neat obelisk of stone, with no other inscription than "Anno Pacis, 1814. W. L. B. P." It might be wished that it were something higher, and if the Peace continues perhaps it may grow. You now enter a plot of decorated garden, not actually divided from the rest of the ground, but distinguished from it by mere interference of art—small flower-borders, trellis-work arbours, a fountain perpetually playing, and a small cold bath encompassed by rock-work. Here over a rural seat we read the following lines :

" Rest, Stranger, in this decorated scene
That hangs its bed of flowers, its slopes of green :
So from the walks of life the weeds remove,
But fix thy better hopes on scenes above."

For the cold bath, where the little rill falls into it, the following verses are destined :

" Mark where, above the small cascade,
Quiver th' uncertain light and shade :
Such shadows human hopes supply,
That tremble restless, and then die.
Stranger, thoughtful tread the cave,—
No light is fix'd, but that beyond the grave."

Proceeding directly up the slope from this place, you meet with a root-house hermitage, with a rude stone table, a wooden chair, a small sun-dial on a fragment of a twisted column, and a rustic cross, which St. Bruno, the hermit, is supposed to have erected, and thus to have inscribed :

" He who counted all as loss,
Save Peace, and Silence, and the Cross."
BRUNO.

Out he front of the hermitage and near the dial are these :

" To mark life's few and fleeting hours,
I plac'd the dial 'midst the flowers,
Which one by one came forth and died,
Still withering round its ancient side :
Mortal, let the sight impart
Its pensive moral to thy heart !"
BRUNO.

You now pass through a completely embowered filbert-walk to a large pond, into which at the upper end falls a pleasing cascade. The pond is terminated by another rural seat, in which these lines are written :

" QUIETI ET MUSIS.
" Be thine Retirement's peaceful joys,
And a life that makes no noise ;
Save when Fancy, musing long,
Wakes her desultory song,

Sounding to the vacant ear
Like the rill that murmurs near."

On a gentle ascent above the cascade is a funereal urn embowered in shade to the memory of the author's brother, Dr. Bowles, who fell a sacrifice at Gibraltar to the duties of his profession. The pedestal is thus ascribed :

"M. S. HENRICI BOWLES, M.D., Qui ad Calpen, Febre ibi exitiali grassante, Ut opem miseris præstaret, Publicè missus, Ipse miserrimè periit ; Anno 1804, æt. 39. Fratri optimo mœrens P."—W. L. B.

From this place, by a winding and shady walk, you are reconducted to the house, and terminate this short but classical tour by again enjoying the natural beauties of the scene. A. N.

[1827, *Part I.*, p. 493.]

A subsequent visit to Bremhill has given me the opportunity of transcribing two or three inscriptions, added since my former account, which for their elegance will deserve preservation.

Near the cascade are the following lines :

"As the rill that, gushing near,
Soothes with murmuring lapse the ear,
Be thine confin'd to tranquil joys,
A life that makes no ruder noise."

"AT THE HERMIT'S SEAT.

"Dost thou lament the dead, and mourn the loss
Of many friends? O think upon the Cross."

In a corner of the churchyard, which commands a beautiful view of the country to a considerable distance, the following elegant lines are inscribed upon a small tablet :

"Here rest the village dead, and here too I,
When yonder dial points the hour, must lie.
Look round, the distant prospect is display'd
Like life's fair landscape, mark'd with light and shade.
Stranger, in peace pursue thy onward road,
But ne'er forget thy long and last abode."

An anecdote is connected with this inscription, which I record with pleasure, as affording a genuine trait of rural simplicity. A stranger passing by the place, after reading the inscription, was naturally desirous to know the author of lines so unexpectedly good in so retired a spot. The only person in view being the sexton, who was digging a grave, he was called, and greeted with the question, "Pray, who wrote those beautiful lines?" The answer was, "The carpenter." "Carpenter? What, a carpenter of this village?" "Yes, our carpenter." Stranger : "But are you sure he wrote them?" "Ay, sir, quite sure. I knows he did." No further information was to be gained, and the stranger left the country impressed with the

notion that the common peasants of that village wrote excellent verses. Whoever reads them, knowing that the carpenter was only employed to place on the board the thoughts and expressions of the gifted Rector of Bremhill, will not wonder at the merit of the lines, but will doubtless wish, with us, that the hour may be far distant which the dial shall point for the departure of the poet. A. N.

[1840, *Part I.*, p. 272.]

Your readers will be pleased to learn that the lath-and-plaster partition which lately occupied the whole space of the arch dividing the nave from the chancel of Bremhill Church has been entirely removed. . . . The beautifully-carved screen which supported the ancient rood-loft still remains entire. It is a very good specimen, and though it has been painted white, only requires to be restored to its original oak colour. Upon the platform above the cornice, under the centre of the arch, stands a fine bust of the Saviour, an *Ecce Homo*, executed in Italy.

This church exhibits some interesting examples of various periods of English architecture. The bold under-cutting, the scroll-work, and other enrichments of the capitals of the columns which divide the nave from the side aisles are peculiarly striking. The font, which is of corresponding character, has been engraved among Mr. Britton's specimens of Norman fonts in his "Architectural Dictionary." There are several varieties of oak carving in the panel-work of the seats, which exhibit their original standards, though blended with modern additions. From the sculptured ornaments of the vaulted roof of the south porch, among which we see the white hart or hind of the house of York and the double rose of the union, we may conclude this part, and perhaps the tower, to have been rebuilt in the time of Henry VII.

In the chancel are several very interesting monuments and memorials. Near Dr. Tounson's gravestone, who died in 1687, are the vestiges of an ancient inscription on a mutilated slab of black forest marble, part of which has been unfortunately removed to make room for some modern pavement of freestone. The letters are in the large and bold Gothico-Roman form of the twelfth century, and in the centre is a purfled crosier. From the situation of this monumental slab, and from its general character, which corresponds with some of the earliest portions of the fabric, there is every reason to believe that it was intended to commemorate the founder of the church, or the first rector, about the commencement of the thirteenth century.* The only part of the inscription at all legible consists of the word "INSEPTUS" in the upper line, and in the opposite one

* See "Parochial History of Bremhill," by the Rev. W. L. Bowles, pp. 266, 268, 8vo. London, 1828.

"CHRISTUS VE. . . ." *Inseptus*, though of rare occurrence, is used by Seneca. J. I.

Britford.

[1836, *Part I.*, p. 511.]

The most interesting memorial at Britford is on the north side of the chancel, commemorating the fate of the unfortunate Duke of Buckingham. It is an altar-tomb having a large marble slab on the upper surface, and a base richly sculptured with various figures placed within niches. It is rather singular that a doubt should have been entertained for so many years respecting this tomb, as the two shields of arms at one end of it clearly prove them to have indicated the families of Stafford and Rivers, the first bearing a chevron, the last a fesse. On referring to the pedigree of Stafford in Dugdale's "Baronage," we find, "Henricus Stafford dux Buck' decapitatus apud Salisburi, 1 Ric. III." The said personage married Katharine, daughter of Richard Widevil, Earl Rivers, and as the two shields correspond in a great degree with the arms of the two families, I am inclined to suppose that the figures on the base of the tomb allude to a melancholy event which took place at Salisbury. There are six niches, five of which contain male and female figures; the first is vacant, which I think was designed for the unfortunate Duke. I consider the female figure in the second niche, having a crown on her head, as representing the Duchess, his wife. The next figure is evidently an ecclesiastic or bishop deploring the unfortunate fate of the Duke; and at this period Widvile, brother of the Duchess, was Bishop of the see. The fourth figure represents a female crowned like the second, holding a sword in one hand, and in the other a cap or bonnet, probably that of the Duke.

The fifth figure represents the executioner with the sword in his hand.

The last figure represent a female holding up her hand in apparent grief, and with a child in her arms, as alluding to one of the unfortunate Duke's offspring.

R. COLT HOARE.

[1836, *Part I.*, pp. 605, 606.]

It gave me pleasure to perceive that your reviewer has stated his dissent from the opinion of Sir R. C. Hoare, that the unappropriated monument at Britford, near Salisbury, was that of Henry, Duke of Buckingham, beheaded by King Richard III. It was to be feared that the respect so generally and so deservedly paid to the venerable topographer of Wiltshire might have occasioned that opinion (which is already recorded by a brass plate affixed to the monument, and published in two topographical works, his own "History of Wiltshire," and the Rev. Peter Hall's "Picturesque Memorials of Salis-

bury"*) to be so unreservedly received by his fellow-countrymen, that an ingenious and plausible hypothesis would have shortly assumed the attitude of a truth, and thus have defied all future contradiction.

In Sir R. C. Hoare's remarks, which are printed in Mr. Hall's work, it is candidly admitted that—

"Amongst the numerous altar-tombs which I have seen, I do not recollect a similar one recording facts, as the different compartments are usually filled by angels, monks or knights holding shields of arms," etc.

If, therefore, the figures on this monument can be explained in the "usual" way, we can have no sufficient grounds for supposing this to be an exception from the general rule.

The figures in niches round tombs generally represent either: (1) The relatives of the deceased, to which Mr. Gough applied the term "weepers," or "mourners"; (2) saints with their respective emblems; (3) figures, generally angels, holding armorial shields.

Of the last kind, we have two angels with shields at the end of this monument.

But I think it will appear, on examination, that the figures in its front are not of the first kind, as Sir R. C. Hoare has regarded them, nor combined, as he imagined, to convey a connected story; but of the second, that is, they are saints, holding the usual emblems, by which their identity was distinguished.

The first niche is now empty, doubtless from an accident, not by the original intention.

The crowned female in the second niche has lost her hands, and with them probably the symbol they contained. Her crown is drawn by Mr. Trotter (the draughtsman from which the plate in the "Hundred of Cawdon" is engraved), exactly like that worn by the fourth figure hereafter noticed. And here I would remark that either that artist has taken great liberties to improve, after his own notions, the figures and the tracery, or else the monument itself appears to have been very fancifully repaired. These coronets in particular are different to any that are to be found in ancient examples.

The bishop in the third niche is probably St. Peter or St. Nicholas, or one of the other saints who were usually represented in episcopal attire.

The fourth figure is evidently St. Katharine, drawn, as usual, with a sword, and holding in her hand a wheel (which has been interpreted as the Duke's bonnet). She customarily wears a coronet, as does St. Margaret, for whom the second figure may have been intended.

The fifth figure is in armour, and holds a sword, and is probably, therefore, St. George; St. Paul, whose emblem is also a sword, being

* Mr. Hall has inadvertently called the Duke "Edward, the last of the Staffords who bore the title."

always represented in robes. And the last is the Virgin and her holy Infant. According to a plan frequently followed, the saints are alternately male and female.

Your reviewer has already mentioned that the arms at the end of the tomb are not confirmatory of the appropriation to the house of Stafford. The first shield bears a chevron with apparently a file or label; the second shield bears either a fesse cottised wavy (as it appears in Sir R. C. Hoare's plate) or else a fesse engrailed (as it appears in Mr. Hall's woodcut). As I have not examined the monument myself, I cannot speak with accuracy of these heraldic shields, which perhaps some Salisbury correspondent will describe with greater precision, and state whether they occur at both ends of the tomb. The extreme simplicity of their charges, and the consequent wide range of families to whom they might be assigned, has evidently led to their failure in conveying that information which heraldry generally affords. Still, if we knew accurately what they really are (or were before any recent repair), we might proceed safely to consider to what names, either from their connection with the parish or from other circumstances, they might with most probability be assigned.

D. H.

Bromham.

[1798, *Part II.*, p. 850.]

The manor of Bromham, it is well known, was given to the abbey of Battel, in Sussex, by William Rufus. Not far from the church of Bromham lies an arable ground, between four and five acres, called the Chantry Field; and adjoining to it two meads, about four acres and a half, called the Chantry Meads; also a large and ancient habitation, called the Chantry House, to which appertained certain annual vicontiel or fee farm rents, collected from ten different persons, and amounting to 20s. a year.

This name, still retained by the house and lands, seems to indicate their having formerly belonged, with other parts of Bromham, to the abbey of Battel, but they at present pay tithes to the rector.

J. MONK.

[1798, *Part II.*, p. 948.]

William Rufus gave to Battel Abbey for ever a manor in Wiltshire, valued at 40s., called Bromham, with its members, and exempted the abbey and all that belonged to it, "ab omni exactione et consuetudine terrenæ servitutis" ("Mon. Ang.," i., 316). In Riley's "*Placita Parl.*," 630-632, is a petition, 2 Edward III., for liberties within the manor of Bromham to hold pleas before one of the king's justices and the abbot's steward. By Cart., 6 Edward II., lands and liberties are here confirmed. Two registers of Battel Abbey are in the Augmentation Office at Westminster, and one in the library at Lincoln's Inn among Mr. Hale's MSS.

Chapel Plaster.

[1835, *Part I.*, pp. 143-145.]

The building, of which two views are given in the accompanying plate, is thus mentioned by Leland on his route from Corsham to the neighbouring village of Haselbury: "I left on the left hand, on the toppe of a litle hille, AN HEREMITAGE, withyn a litle as I turnid doun to Hasilbyri."

It stood by the side of the high-road, and "on the top of a little hill"; it was, therefore, clearly not one of those primitive hermitages which were formed in the obscurity of a wilderness or the recesses of a forest, but one of those useful single houses which were stationed to afford to the wayfaring man a charitable and religious shelter. Mr. Fosbroke, in his "British Monachism," has quoted from the life of Fiacre in the "Golden Legend," who, having procured a spot in which "to lede his lyfe heremyticke and solitarily," there "founded a chyrche," and "beyonde it a lytill way thens he bylded a lytil house wherin he dwelled, and there herberowedde the pour that passed by." In "Don Quixote" also is mentioned a hermitage, which had adjoining to it "a little house, built by the labour of the hermit's own hands, which, though narrow, is large enough to receive travellers."

Thus, at the first stage from London on the north there was a hermitage on Highgate Hill, one of the occupants of which was so particularly attentive and munificent to the travellers that he formed for them the causeway through Holloway. There was also a similar foundation on the road at Tottenham.

On the Birmingham road, near Chipping Norton, is now a handsome inn, called Chapel House, which Mr. Gough (in "Magna Britannia") states was an ancient chapel used by pilgrims.*

Others throughout the country will occur to our readers, and chapels on bridges were of a similar class. Many of them were endowed, others were supported by the bounty of the wealthy traveller to assist the indigent.

"For the relief and entertainment," says one of the historians of Glastonbury, "of devout pilgrims resorting to this holy place, there was not only a hospital built at Glastonbury,† but likewise in other places, where they were entertained gratis. There were two such in the neighbourhood, one called the 'Chapell of Playsters,' near Box, a town in Wiltshire near the Bath; the other was a great house, called, without Lafford's Gate, near Bristol."‡

* The editor of Skelton's "Oxfordshire" supposed that "the buildings of this inn were formerly those of Cold Norton Priory" ("Chadlington Hundred," p. 5). In digging to enlarge the house, stone coffins, a silver crucifix, and some beads were found.

† Still standing; now the George Inn.

‡ Hearne's "Hist. and Ant. of Glastonbury," p. 26.

It may have been a reason for establishing such a place at Chapel Plaster that the abbots of Gloucester had a country mansion or palace at Kington St. Michael, about eight miles distant toward Malmesbury, so that it was found a convenient resting-place. This house is still used as a dwelling-house, and a few years ago contained a magnificent ancient bedstead.

With respect to the origin of what now appears the singular name of Chapel Plaster, it may be suggested that the former, and not the latter, word was possibly the adjunct to the original name of the spot, which may have been the "plas-trew," or woody place. From Leland we learn that it was surrounded with wood in his time: "From Haselbyri to Monckton the country beginnith to wax woddy: and so forth like to Bradeford."

The architecture of the chapel belongs to the close of the fifteenth century. The design possesses considerable merit, and its ornaments have been carefully executed. The body and chancel together measure 29 feet in length, and are each 9 feet 3 inches in width; but the distinction between them is sufficiently marked on the exterior by the superior height of the roof of the body, which is distinguished at its western extremity by a bell-turret. The porch at this end is covered with a steep roof and gable, but the door and small window are its only embellishments. It, however, shelters a handsome door, surmounted by a niche of very elegant and somewhat singular design. A figure of the rood is remembered to have stood in this niche, but some years ago it was thrown down and beaten to pieces. In the spandrils of the doorway are blank shields, projecting in the centre, and perforated at the dexter chief, after the Tudor fashion. On the south side of the outer door is a piscina, but now closed.

There are windows on the sides of the chancel, but none at the east end, which presents a buttress in the centre rising nearly to the summit of the gable, which has been ornamented with a cross in stone, but nothing more than the pedestal remains. A modern oven has been attached to this end. A transcript on the north side of the body formed a portion of the original design. Its roof is as lofty as that of the body, and the gable terminates in a handsome finial. The window retains its tracery, but the mullions have been destroyed. The lower room of this transept has a very large fireplace. The upper floor was approached by an exterior staircase, shown in the view.

A plan and several views of Chapel Plaster are preserved in Mr. Buckler's collection of the architectural antiquities of Wiltshire, in the possession of Sir R. C. Hoare.

The modern appropriation of this ancient and interesting building is mean. As the adjunct of a small alehouse, it is continually exposed to injury, which is inflicted without remorse and without measure.

Still less creditable, however, was the purpose to which this interesting building was perverted at one period during the last century, when the ancient hermitage, the refuge of the weary traveller, became the lurking-place of highwaymen. In "The Discoveries of John Poulter, alias Baxter, who was apprehended for robbing Dr. Hancock, of Salisbury, on Claverton Down, near Bath" (the eighth edition, 1754), it is frequently mentioned, being kept by "S——n and M——y G——a." After robbing Dr. Hancock, Poulter and his comrade, Buck, returned to Chapel Plaster, whence they had started, and "Buck asked M——y G——a if she was not afraid to see us load our pistols; she said, 'No; they are not the first I have seen loaded by night in this kitchen.'"

Haselbury House, one mile from Box, is of the age of Elizabeth or James I. Early in the present century several stone coffins were ploughed up near this mansion, probably marking the site of the church of Haselbury, which has been long destroyed. It has been customary on the induction of a new rector that he should read prayers in a room in the old mansion; and in an enclosed place, called the burying-place (the same in which the coffins were found), a portion of the mould is placed in his hand. The parishioners have now appropriated to them the south transept of the church at Box.

Chippenham.

[1792, *Part II.*, p. 980.]

In the church of Chippenham, in Wilts, was the following memorial of one of the Bayntuns, a family still of rank in that county:

"Armiger hoc tumulo jacet hic generosus opaco, ANDREAS BAYNTON qui nominatus erat, Quem genuit miles bene notus ubique Edoardus, Hujus erat heres, nunc requiescit humo. A.D. 1579."

K. Z.

Cholderton.

[1853, *Part I.*, pp. 171, 172.]

I have the pleasing task of narrating the discovery and renovation of a tomb in the churchyard at Cholderton, remarkable as recording the reception by the deceased, then the squire of the parish, of the "Great Deliverer," on his mission of civil and religious liberty in 1688.

The slab in question was in a most dilapidated state, but the inscription was deciphered, though with much trouble, by the incumbent, the Rev. James Fraser, who took a praiseworthy interest in the matter.

There were, in fact, inscriptions to three different members of the family, as follows, the last being the one more directly alluded to. The letters in brackets have been restored by conjecture:

"Here lyeth in expectation of a [joy-]ful resurrection the body of Jonathan Hill, Gent., who departed this life September the 27th, 1670, *Ætatis sue* 65." . . .

"Hic jacet corpus Elizabeth, uxor . . . Jonathan Hill ar. In spe beate Resurrectionis, Quæ obiit die . . . Decembris Anno D'ni 1702, Ætatis suæ 56. Vita caduca vale; salvato vita perennis, corpus terra tegit; spiritus alta petit. Hoc tumulo jacet Jonathan Hill Ar[milger Ex antiqua stif[rpe] in Hoc agro orium[dus] Qui Guilelmum tertium [Re]gem Angliæ recepit more R[egio] Georgio cum pro M . . . Milit[ar]i hono[r]e." . . .

A reference to the parish register shows that Mr. Hill was buried on July 28, 1727. We also find an entry of the marriage of his eldest daughter and coheir, Elizabeth, then of New Sarum, to Thomas Lee, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq., on January 12, 1690-91; and their representative is, I am informed, the Rev. John W. T. Lee, of Withycombe Raleigh, in the county of Devon. There is no notice of the event of the Prince's visit in the parish register, neither does any tradition remain amongst the inhabitants.

I may here be permitted . . . to offer a few remarks on the march of the Prince, its connection with Stonehenge, and the record on the above-mentioned tombstone. Mr. Macaulay, apparently referring to "Whittie's Exact Diary" of the expedition, introduces the episode of the regiments halting in succession to gaze on the "mysterious ruin" as having taken place on the advance upon Salisbury from the westward. Now, it is clear from Whittie's account (he was a chaplain to the army) that the Prince and his forces moved from Sherborne in three columns, first to Wincanton, thence to Mere, and so on straight to Salisbury by Hindon, Dinton and Wilton, and, consequently, at the nearest point full eight miles due south of Stonehenge. But Mr. Whittie subsequently tells us that, "after some stay here," viz., at Salisbury, "the Prince went to Amesbury"; and then follows the story of the halt to view the famous Druid circle, accompanied by some fanciful theories as to its origin and object. Cholderton is about four or five miles due west of Amesbury. From Amesbury the army and its great chief advanced to Hungerford, and here Whittie records an incident bearing a close resemblance to the tale on Mr. Hill's tombstone. "To proceed," he says, "the army moved daily according to the motion of his Highness, who rode from Amesbury unto a certain gentleman's house near Collingbourne." This was some eight miles due north of Cholderton, and on his direct road to Hungerford, where Mr. Macaulay states that he arrived on December 6, and whence, according to Whittie, he must have removed to Littlecote, the ancient and curious seat of the Darrells and Pophams, on the 8th, staying there until the 10th, the intervening day being Sunday. From thence the army continued its march on London by the old Bath road through Newbury and Reading. L.

Cricklade.

[1803, *Part I.*, p. 113.]

I herewith send you (Plate II.) a slight, but I believe correct, sketch of a stone cross. . . . It is still standing in the town of Cricklade,

co. Wilts, and displays some taste and sculpture in its construction. . . . The cross is in the middle of a street, and the shaft with a base elevated on five steps. The shaft, tapering upwards, supports an ornamental capital on corbel heads, with niches, columns, crockets, pediments, etc. . . .

Crudwell.

[1801, *Part I.*, pp. 22-24.]

Crudwell lies on the left hand of the road from Tetbury to Malmesbury, and seems to be populous. Between the foss (which parts the parish from Askley) and the church lie farm-houses and scattered buildings in straggling hamlets. In some parts the fields are small, the ground gibbous, full of tussocks, and the enclosures numerous, with abundance of scattered willows, the whole being the aspect of a drained marsh. Further on is a pond, with a handsome bridge of four arches at right angles to a road, which runs close by the church. Upon advancing higher the appearance of the village improves. The country in the general aspect is a slow, gradual descent from the higher ground nearer to Cirencester. The church, which is a large, handsome, ancient building, consists of three aisles, and a low west tower, with four pinnacles and quatrefoil parapet. The date of the building is various, having work from the twelfth century downwards. The pillars which part the nave from the side aisles are on one side low, round, massy, with capitals of inverted horns, and arches obtusely pointed. Those opposite have more slender and higher pillars, and a much sharper arch. In the clerestory are four square windows on each side, the casement part consisting of a quatrefoil. The roof is of wood, and in two compartments nearest to the chancel are remains of very rich pierced work; for the church appears to have been much beautified in the latter end of Henry VII. or beginning of Henry VIII. The rafters rest on stone corbels of human faces. On the wall in the centre of the arch which parts the nave from the chancels are the royal arms, modern; on the wall of the west end, where the tower begins, the Belief, Lord's Prayer, and Ten Commandments. The font for immersion, which is under the tower, has an octangular basin, a similar shaft, diminishing upwards, and a round pedestal. There are five bells, and a stone staircase from the tower, descending into one of the aisles, and a bracket for an image under the arch of the tower. In a side aisle there is a seat, enclosed by the remains of a rich wooden screen, and in the wall a nich and small doorway of the fifteenth century.

In the opposite aisle is a window of the twelfth century, a round doorway with a billeted moulding, and a much later square window full of fragments of stained glass, once plainly intended to represent the seven Sacraments. In the upper parts, alternately repeated, are :

(1) Bendy, wavy of six or and arg. (by mistake, or else assumed for difference, for three pales wavy or—Lord Molyns,* as will appear from the next coat); (2) Sa. two bars, arg. in fess a mullet of 2nd, and in chief three plates (Fitzjohn, of Heytesbury, adopted by Sir Walter de Hungerford, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir Adam Fitzjohn). Below are: (1) A bishop with his crosier, three persons kneeling before him, one holding a casket (or reliquary), as many persons with the clerical tonsure, one with the stem of a cross over his shoulder, another holding a book open (the Sacrament of Ordination); (2) A sick man naked in bed, his arms upon his breast, a woman standing behind, other persons on one side, one of which is a priest, stooping towards the sick man, with a wafer in one hand and a cross in the other; a man kneeling on the other side with a casket open in his hand; something at the bottom of the bed, small, and resembling a round-made arm-chair, for absolution, Extreme Unction, etc.; (3) A man in front of a building with the stole over his shoulders, four persons standing behind; a woman in a modest inclining posture on one side, other side mutilated (matrimony at the church door); (4) Extremely mutilated, a man pointing to a book open on a table, the pages marked with small billets; another kneeling with hands in a praying posture just by and underneath Johannes (Penance, qq.). In the centre of all is a square-shouldered short figure of our Saviour, tolerably complete, with a crown of thorns and glory, divided into rose-like sections. Scraps of writing are interspersed, as "Ave, Dei, nob, sic nos re," etc. A pillar between the chancel and this aisle is pierced for view of the elevation of the host. In the chancel is a piscina, and sentences of Scripture painted on the walls around.

In the pews are remains of very rich carved work. Opposite the clerk's desk on a pew door are the royal arms, with the griffin and greyhound supporters, thus marking the period when the church was so beautified, the rose and thistle in the corners above. Below, a man's head in profile, with an antique beard, and a round slouched hat, cocked up behind, within a circle of rose-stems, branching out at four angles into as many roses. In another, two heads in circles, respecting each other. In others, a single head above, and roses and flowers below. By the way, I shall here suggest it as likely that, the common ornament of roses in these wooden carved works and screens, may possibly point out a period, at least with respect to the latter, when wood superseded the use of stone used for such fabrics more anciently, as is plain.

The principal epitaphs are these:

In the chancel wall, on a brass:

"Obdormivit in Domina placide MARIA SHEWRING, virgo, uxor, mater amabilis. Ob. 14 Aug., 1711. MARIA, optimæ spei filia, ob. Londini, Sept. 3, 1715.

* A title which the Hungerfords bore temp. Henry VI.

"THOMAS SHEWRING, M.A., rector de Crudwell, vic. de Hankerton, et Ball. coll. Oxon. olim socius dignissimus. Qui immature omnibus nisi sibi moriebatur, Oct. 18, 1718. JANA conjux, ultima, spectatissimæ virtutis femina, noverca desideratissima, ob. 27 Septembris, A.D. 1720."

In the chancel :

"Mr. THOMAS ERLE, jun., merchant, who dyed Aug. 13, 1702."

"DANIEL HARTFORD, B.D., late rector, Nov. 4, 1679."

"JOHN ADSHAW, minister of God's word, 1645."

"THOMAS ERLE, late of Escot, gentleman, 1637."

[Mr. Giles Earle has now an estate there.]

"JOHN JENNER, 1670."

Several to the name of Oatridge.

One with a cross patonce and crest, a goat's head issuing from a ducal coronet. Several for Harewell and Estcourt; and

"Here lyeth the body of ANNE, the daughter of Sir Thomas Earle, knt., and wife of Henry Creswicke, esq. She departed this life the 18th day of January, in the 63rd year of her age, and of our Lord 1728."*

The manor has passed successively from Ethelwulph to the abbey of Malmesbury; the Crown; Baynton; Lord Lucas; his sole daughter, Mary, Countess of Kent, created Baroness Lucas, of Crudwell, May 7, 1663;† and, by marriage of the Hon. Philip Yorke to Lady Jemima Campbell, eldest grand-daughter of the last Earl of Kent, to the Hardwicke family, where it now remains.

There was once a chapel at Estcourt; and land was granted in Crudwell to Ralph de Hunlavinton. Registr. Malmsb. penès Rememb. Regis num. lxx, 108 (Jones's "Index"); ubi plura Collect. for Wiltshire, penès.

T. D. F.

Dauntsey.

[1841, *Part II.*, p. 639.]

As some workmen were digging a vault in the churchyard at Dauntsey, Wilts, on November 5, they discovered, at the depth of 7 feet, a stone coffin, of which I send you a sketch. Its form, with the exterior following the shape of the head, is unusual. It is cut out of a solid block of stone, except the rim, which, in order to increase the depth, is formed of pieces of freestone about 4 inches thick, and of different lengths, as marked in the sketch. Its external length is 7 feet, the internal 6 feet 4 inches; its breadth without, 2 feet 4 inches; within, 1 foot 10 inches. It contained a perfect skeleton of large size, but the bones much discoloured. The coffin lid was of elm, but completely decayed, although imbedded in water. In the interior of Dauntsey Church are several monuments of the former possessors of the manor. One of oolite or freestone is to

* See Collinson's "Somersetshire," vol. ii., p. 143; and Collin's "Baronetage," vol. iv., p. 343.

† This account is not given as perfect.

the memory of Sir John Danvers, who died in 1514. He was Sheriff of Wilts the 19th of Henry VII. There is also another noble monument of marble commemorating Henry Earl of Danby, born at Dauntsey in 1573, and interred there in 1643. He founded and endowed the Botanic Garden at Oxford. A fine full-length portrait of Lord Danby, by Vandyck, and formerly in the collection of Lord Orford at Houghton Hall, is now in my possession.

G. A. BIEDERMANN.

Devizes.

[1786, *Part II.*, pp. 903, 904.]

On September 25 the Archduke and Duchess of Austria with their suite arrived in town from Bath. On the road, as they came through the Devizes, they met with a singular occurrence, which afforded them some entertainment. A custom has prevailed in that place, of which the following story is the foundation : A poor weaver passing through the place without money and friends, being overtaken by hunger and in the utmost necessity, applied for charity to a baker, who kindly gave him a penny loaf. The weaver made his way to Coventry, where, after many years' industry, he amassed a fortune, and by his will, in remembrance of the seasonable charity of the Devizes, he bequeathed a sum in trust, for the purpose of distributing on the anniversary day when he was so relieved a halfpenny loaf to every person in the town, gentle and simple, and to every traveller that should pass through the town on that day a penny loaf. The will is faithfully administered, and the Duke of Austria and his suite passing through the town on the day of the Coventry loaf, in their way from Bath to London, a loaf was presented to each of them, of which the Duke and Duchess were most cheerfully pleased to accept, and the custom struck the Archduke so forcibly as a curious anecdote in his travels that he minuted down the circumstance, and the high personages seemed to take delight in breakfasting on the loaf thus given, as the testimony of gratitude for a favour seasonably conferred.

Dinton.

[1788, *Part II.*, p. 693.]

Being lately on a visit to a friend at Dinton, he showed me, in the chancel of their church, an epitaph on a gravestone in the floor (written, as he said, by a clergyman in the neighbourhood), which, for elegance of composition and excellency of the character it commemorates, deserves, I think, to be exhibited to the eye of the public. I should be obliged, therefore, if you would give it a place in your next Magazine.

C. B.

"Underneath lie the remains of the Rev. WILLIAM HASELDINE, D.D., Vicar of this place, Rector of Wishford, and formerly Fellow of Magdalen College, in
VOL. XXV.

Oxford; who departed this life Dec. the 3d, 1773, in the 60th year of his age. He was a gentleman, a scholar, and a Christian, a fine writer, an eloquent preacher, and a diligent, bountiful, and affectionate Pastor of this parish. Without titles and dignities (though endowed with virtues and talents that would have adorned the highest), undisturbed by violent passions and inordinate desires, he enjoy'd a plentiful fortune with moderation and decency; lived to a maturity of years, happy in the love and esteem of all that knew him, and died in Peace.

"Drop, Reader, one kind tear upon his urn,
And pensive home with better heart return."

Ditteridge.

[1854, *Part II.*, pp. 364, 365.]

Some curious paintings have been lately discovered by the Rev. George Mullins, the Rector of Ditteridge, Wilts, on the north wall of the interesting little church of that place.

Ditteridge, Ditchridge, or Dycheridge, is situated about a mile north-west of Box Station on the Great Western Railway, and about six miles north-east of Bath. It is a scattered village of about twenty-two houses, lying very wide apart. The neighbourhood of the church is exceedingly beautiful, commanding the lovely vale of Box, the Monkton Farleigh Cliffs, and the rich and varied scenery in the direction of Bath. The church is but a small structure, consisting only of a nave and chancel. Its earliest features appear to be Norman. One of the original, narrow, circular-headed lights, with a wide splay in the interior, still remains, although walled up in the inside. The rest have been destroyed to make way for Decorated windows and others of a later period. The doorway on the south retains its original Norman capitals, sculptured with grotesque animals, and a human head in strong relief on either side, looking east and west. A wooden porch of considerable antiquity, overgrown by a picturesque cluster of ivy, almost entirely conceals the tympanum, which upon inspection is found to be filled with sculptures in excellent preservation. I had neither time nor opportunity to examine them sufficiently to enable me to ascertain their purport; indeed, I am not sure that it would not be necessary, for a complete investigation, to clear away the protecting ivy, and perhaps part of the porch itself. At the eastern end of the nave is a bell-cot, which probably contained the sancte bell. The general features of the interior correspond with those of the outside. The chancel arch is pointed, and rests upon corbels or imposts dying into the piers without pillar shafts. There is a piscina on the south side of the chancel, under a plain triangular-headed fenestrella with chamfered edges. The drain is six-foiled, three of the angles projecting beyond the wall, and dying into it in a point beneath. At the back of the niche is a credence shelf, the edge of which has three semicircular projections. In the north wall, at the eastern extremity of the nave, is a flight of stone steps which led to the rood loft. A priest's door in

the north wall has been partially blocked up, and converted into a window. The font stands at the west end of the church ; it is tub-shaped, with flutes half-way down, terminating in scallops ; a row of scallops also runs round the bottom.

The whole of the north wall appears to have been decorated with fresco paintings, arranged in arcades formed by a flowing pattern springing from painted capitals. The portions which Mr. Mullins has uncovered represent as follows : A winged angel weighing a soul, the scales are bowl-shaped, a soul robed in white being in the descending one, and the grim black head of the Evil One, horned and eared like a Durham ox, emerges from the other. On the right is an outlined head of the Virgin. This figure would seem never to have been completed. The same design occurs in a wall painting in Lenham Church, Kent, and has been figured by Mr. Pretty, of Northampton, in the first volume of the *Archæological Journal*. In the Lenham painting, however, it is much more elaborated, there being three devils on the side of the scale which is about to kick the beam, a result brought about by the sudden intervention of the Virgin, who has flung her rosary into the opposite bowl.

To the right of the weighing group in the Ditteridge painting is a large figure of St. Christopher with a tree-stem for a staff in his hand, carrying the infant Saviour on his shoulder over a stormy sea. Further to the right, in the corner below, is a mermaid holding a hand-mirror, in which her own features are clearly reflected. Above is a figure of a monk issuing from a steepled church on a rock, and holding out a huge lantern as a beacon to the giant. These paintings appear to have been covered by later pictures and inscriptions. I regret that I had not time to make a drawing of the wall in its present condition. Possibly the careful examination which the task would have required might have led to other discoveries. Mr. Mullins, however, seems fully alive to the interest which attaches to the subject, and will, I daresay, take care that it receives due attention. The church, indeed, is well worthy of being carefully recorded by the pencil.

G. J. DE WILDE.

Downton.

[1787, *Part II.*, pp. 951, 952.]

About seventy or eighty years ago the remains of a very ancient and decayed structure, which indifferently bore the name of Court House, or King John's Stables, at Downton, in Wiltshire (where it is notorious that king had a palace), were taken down, and some of the materials applied in building or repairing the White Horse Inn, where the old cross stands, in the borough of Downton. Amongst the rubbish were found two ancient carved busts in wood, with the

initials of King John and Isabella,* his then Queen, and the dates either of the year they were carved or of raising the old structure, for which, instead of the capitals and figures of denotation, modern ones seem to have been substituted. These busts were, when the White Horse Inn was so built or repaired, placed, and still remain inserted, in niches in the brickwork of the front of the White Horse, obvious to every passenger, and I send you exact traits of them. If they had not been considered as strong likenesses of the royal personages they were intended for when they were carved, they would hardly have been set up when the structure was raised, as it may be well conjectured they were; and, if so, the retaining those likenesses (see Plate II., Figs. 5, 6) may have its use in the eye of the antiquary, if not the artist.

M. N.

[1836, *Part I.*, p. 511.]

In the parish of Downton is Stand Lynche, now Trafalgar, the estate purchased by the nation for the heirs of the illustrious Nelson.

Edington.

[1846, *Part II.*, pp. 257-260.]

Edington, which is situated in North Wiltshire, in the hundred of Whorwelsdon, but within four miles of the town of Westbury (which is in the southern division of the county), is a place whose name has been rendered famous in various ways.

In the first place, it has been claimed as the scene of the signal victory of Ethandun which King Alfred obtained over the Danes in the year 878; and this opinion was maintained by Camden, Gibson, Gough, and Sir Richard C. Hoare. As to the precise site of the battlefield, however, even those authors are not agreed; whilst Dr. Milner removes it to Heddington, near Roundaway Hill; Lysons to Heddington, near Hungerford; and Whitaker to Slaughtenford, near Yatton. Sir R. C. Hoare's dissertation on this subject will be found in his "Ancient Wiltshire, Southern Division," p. 56; and some remarks dissenting therefrom in the "Beauties of England and Wales," for Wiltshire, 8vo., 1814, pp. 453-456.

* "Anno 1200. Eodem anno factum est divortium inter Johannem Regem & Hanisam uxorem suam, filiam Willielmi Comitis Gloverniæ, per Burdegalensem Archiepiscopum, & per Pictavensem, eo quod erant affines in tertio gradu consanguinitatis. Rex autem Johannes de consilio Domini sui Philippi Regis Franciæ, duxit sibi in uxorem Isabel, filiam Ailmari Comitis de Engolismo, quam predictus Comes consilio & voluntate Ricardi Regis Angliæ prius dederat Hugoni de Brun Comiti de la Marche, quam idem Hugo Comes cepit per verba de præsentis, & ipsa eum. Sed quia illa annos . . . nondum attigerat nubes, noluit eam predictus Hugo in facie ecclesiæ sibi corpulare. Videns ergo pater puellæ quod Johannes Rex Angliæ eam affectavit, eripuit eam de custodia præfati Hugonis, et dedit eam Regi Johanni, & statim Rex desponsavit eam per Archiepiscopum Burdegalensem apud Engolismum."

In the next place, Edington is memorable as the place where the murder of Ralph Ayscough, Bishop of Salisbury, took place in the year 1450. The bishop had been Clerk of the Privy Council, and in the last Parliament had been accused by the House of Commons of having, together with the Duke of Suffolk and Lord Treasurer Say, been instrumental in delivering up the counties of Maine and Anjou to the king's enemies. The Duke and Lord Treasurer had already fallen victims to popular vengeance, the former at Dover, and the latter in Cheapside. The bishop had his enemies near at home, who took advantage of the disturbed state of other parts of the country in order to wreak their vengeance upon him. He appears to have fled from Salisbury, and taken refuge in the monastic house of the Bon Hommes at Edington; but on the way his chariot was robbed, and the sum of 10,000 marks was abstracted therefrom. The next day the rioters,* led on by a brewer of Salisbury, came on to the place of his retreat, where they found him engaged in the celebration of Mass, for it was the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul (June 29). They took him from the altar in his alb, and with his stole about his neck, and carried him to the top of an adjoining hill, where they shamefully murdered him, and stripped his corpse. His shirt, which was dyed in his blood, they divided amongst them, and displayed the parts of it as ensigns of their wickedness.†

Edington, then, is historically memorable for the death of a bishop under unusually tragic circumstances. But it had previously been distinguished by the nativity of a more illustrious prelate than Bishop Ayscough. William de Edington, Bishop of Winchester, who was first Lord Treasurer and afterwards Lord Chancellor during many years of the reign of Edward III., was born at this place. At Winchester he is remembered as having commenced at the west end of the church the re-edification of the present nave, which was completed a few years after by William of Wykeham.

William de Edington was Bishop of Winchester from 1345 until his death in 1366. Shortly after his first settlement in the see, he directed his attention to the foundation of a perpetual chantry and college of priests at the place of his birth. This was in the year 1347. A few years after, it is said at the suggestion of the Black Prince, he determined that the college should consist, not of secular

* Holinshed says, "his owne tenauntes and servants." The citizens of Salisbury generally would properly come under this denomination. In the "Beauties of England and Wales: Wiltshire," p. 449, it is stated, "The Bishops of Salisbury had a palace here, which was plundered and destroyed in the time of Jack Cade's rebellion, 1450." So also in p. 138 of the same volume, "in his palace"; and "they then proceeded to pillage his house, where they found 10,000 marks in money." But the account above quoted says the money was taken from his *chariot*; and it is clear that the bishop had *no palace* at Edington. He was a guest in the house of the Bon Hommes.

† Reign of Henry VI. in Kennett, i. 405.

priests, but of regular canons of St. Augustine, of the class called Bon Hommes. This is stated on the authority of Leland: "Prince Edward, caullid the Black Prince, had a great favor to the Bones-Hommes beyond the se. Wherapon cumming home he hartely besought bisshop Hedington to chaunge the Ministers of his College into Bones-Hommes. Hedington, at his desire, entreatid his collegians to take that ordre; and so they did, all saving the Deane. Hedington sent for ij. of the Bones-Hommes of Ascheruge to rule the other xij. of his college. The elder of the ij. that came from Ascheruge was caullid John Ailesburi, and he was the first Rector at Hedington."*

The only other house of this order in England was that of Ashridge, in Buckinghamshire, which was founded by Edward, Earl of Cornwall, in 1276. The brethren followed the Rule of St. Augustine, and wore a gray or ash-coloured dress. The superior of the monastery was called, not abbat or prior, but rector. The history and peculiarities of the order may be learned by consulting the late Archdeacon Todd's magnificent "History of Ashridge," published under the patronage of John William, Earl of Bridgewater, in 1823; but it may be suggested in passing that there was no real connection between this order and the "Albigenses, heretici," but merely the application of the same term of "Boni homines."

On June 3, 1352, was laid the first foundation of the house or monastery of Edindone. On October 17, 1358, was the first tonsure of the brethren of the monastery. In 1361 the conventual church was dedicated by Robert Weyville, Bishop of Salisbury, in the honour of St. James the Apostle, St. Katharine, and All Saints.† The foundation charter of Bishop Weyville is given by Dugdale.‡

Bishop Edington died on October 8, 1366, when he was buried, not in the church of his foundation, but in his cathedral church of Winchester, where he had erected another chantry.§ The survey (made 26 Henry VIII.) of "the rectory or priory of All Saints of Edyndon" will be found in the "Valor Ecclesiasticus," vol. ii., p. 140. It possessed the rectories of seven churches—viz., Edyndon, Keveleigh, Lavynghon, and Bradlegh, in Wiltshire; Colleshull and Buckeland, in Berkshire; and Newton Valence, in the county of Southampton, the aggregate income from which amounted to £128 3s. 6d.; and nineteen manors—viz., thirteen in Wiltshire, Edyndon, Tynhyde, Beynton, Dilton, Bremylrige, Bratton, Ynmer, Bulkyngton, Lavington, Escott and Urchefount, Bradlegh with Dicherige, Esthroppe and Fresshedon, and Kyngston Deverell; Thormerton, in Gloucestershire; Alvescott and Westwell, in Oxfordshire; West Tyldesley,

* "Itinerary," iv. 25.

† Leland, "Itin.," vol. vi., fol. 15.

‡ "Mon. Angl.," ii. 357.

§ Edington's chantry and effigies are engraved in Britton's "Winchester Cathedral."

Buckeland, and Colleshull, in Berkshire, the income from all which temporalities amounted to £393 8s. 11½d. The total income of the house, therefore, was £521 12s. 5½d., from which there were payments amounting to £100 2s. 8½d., so that the clear value was £421 9s. 8½d.*

The rectory of Edyndon was worth yearly, including the 7s. for the proper tithes of the rector, £43 18s. 2d., from which was paid in procurations to the Archdeacon of Sarum 13s. 4½d., and in pensions to the Bishop of Salisbury 6s. 8d., and to the dean and chapter 3s. 4d.

The manor was worth in rents and farms, £16 18s. 2d.; in the profits of domain lands in the hands of the rector, 76s. 4d.; in perquisites of courts, 13s. 4d.—total, £21 7s. 10d. The rector was John Ryve. There were these payments from the manor: To the abbess of Ramsey, 71s. 8d.; to the same abbess in her manor of Ashton, 25s. 6d.; and to the heirs of Roger Palmer, 10s.—in all, 107s. 2d. John Catcott, the bailiff of the manor, received 6s. 8d., and the like sum for the manor of Bulkyngton.

The register, or cartulary, of the monastery of Edyndon is preserved in the British Museum (MS. Lansd., 432); and a table of its contents is given in the "New Monasticon," vol. vi, p. 535, together with references to other records transcribed from Tanner's "Notitia Monastica."

According to a MS. in the Bodleian Library, and quoted in Rees's "Cyclopædia," article "Church," a pilgrim who visited the Holy Land in 1462 upon his return deposited the following articles in the abbey at Edyngton: "A chapel made to the likeness of our Lord's sepulchre at Jerusalem, and a variety of vestments, with imitations in wood of the chapel of Calvary, the church at Bethlehem, the Mount Olivet, and the valley of Jehosephat."

After the dissolution of the monastery the site was granted in 33 Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Seymour, and afterwards, in 3 Edward VI., to William Paulet, Lord St. John, afterwards Marquess of Winchester. It was subsequently the seat of Sir William Paulet, one of the natural sons of the third marquess. The house as now remaining is occupied by a farmer, and is represented in the accompanying view. Considerable ruins exist between this and the church; and near the house is an ancient wall, measuring 7 feet in height and 2 feet in thickness, which is strengthened by some very singular semi-circular buttresses, with conical caps, ten of which are remaining.

The church is large, and, as may be imagined from the period of its erection and the munificence of its builder, is a fine example of ecclesiastical architecture. It is of cruciform plan, with a central tower, and a lofty south porch. The western front has a central

* So the original, the fractions only being inconsistent.

doorway, divided into two openings, above which is a magnificent window of eight lights, and on either side is a window to the aisles. The nave is divided from the aisles by six lofty arches on each side, with as many clerestory windows above. Under one of these arches, on the south side, is a large altar tomb, having a flat canopy, and formerly decorated with brasses, which, together with the inscription, have been removed; but the arms, which still remain in stone on the panels of the tomb and in the frieze of the canopy, will go far to help us to the identification of this hitherto unappropriated monument. They are the following coats, sometimes alone and sometimes quartered: Gules, four fusils in fess argent, each charged with an escallop sable—Cheyné; Azure, a cross fleury or—Paveley. We have added the tinctures, as there is no doubt of their identity. The Paveleys and Cheynés were successively lords of the neighbouring manor of Westbury; and their pedigree will be found at p. 3 of Sir R. C. Hoare's "Westbury Hundred." Ralph Cheyné married Joan, daughter and coheir of Sir John de Paveley; and Elizabeth Cheyné, one of the daughters and coheirs of his grandson, Sir Edmund Cheyné, who died in 1430, was, says the pedigree, the wife of John Powlett, though he could not have been "the 2d. Marq. of Winchester," who lived a century later.

Near the altar are several flat stones which had also brasses, but they are all gone, except that on one three shields remain, bearing, on a cross engrailed, five roses (?).

At the end of the south transept is another large monument, with the effigy of a canon, probably one of the rectors; his feet rest on a tun. On a shield are the letters **18**, and on another the figure of a tun with a tree growing from it, apparently a rebus of the name of Baynton—bay in tun.

The chancel measures 50 feet long by 22 feet wide, and has three lofty windows on each side, besides the great east window. The piers between the windows are decorated with niches, having handsome canopies.

In the chancel is a monument to Sir Edward Lewys, of the Van, co. Glamorgan, who died in 1630. It was erected in 1664 by his widow, Lady Beauchamp, daughter of Robert, Earl of Dorset, and has effigies of the deceased, his lady, and children.

A marble slab at the east end of the chancel is inscribed to the memory of Lady Catharine Powlett, wife of the Right Hon. Lord Harry Powlett; she died April 23, 1744, aged forty-nine years.

The late George Watson Taylor, Esq., M.P., who was lord of the manor, repaired the chancel in 1825. Earl Stoke Park, which is about 3 miles distant from Edington, was at that time the flourishing abode of Mr. Taylor, and the intended nucleus of a large domain;*

* Britton's "Beauties of Wilts," iii. 357.

but the change which shortly came over the fortunes of our West Indian proprietors dissipated those splendid dreams.

The benefice of Edington is now a perpetual curacy, of the returned value in 1831 of £87, with a residence.

Farleigh.

[1800, *Part II.*, p. 828.]

The following inscription and monkish rhymes I copied from a square stone in the aisle of the parish church of Farley in Wiltshire :

"H. S. ROGERUS HUGITT. Qui ex imo statu ad summos honores emergens, natus pastor, miles obiit, ætat." . . .

[Rest of inscription omitted.]

It is remarkable that it was not possible by any trace that is left to form the slightest conjecture as to the antiquity of this monument.

A. S.

Fonthill.

[1821, *Part II.*, pp. 495, 496.]

It has been said that Mr. Wyatt excelled all his contemporaries in the design and arrangement of "Gothic mansions," a remark in which there is some justice ; but how faithfully he copied the admirable works of antiquity may be seen by comparison. Mr. Wyatt evinced the error which seems to be inherent in most modern architects, that of supposing beauty to result from a complex design and a crowd of ornaments. This is nowhere more fully exemplified than in the tall and incomplete house called (for no other reason but because it is composed of pointed arches and Gothic ornaments) Fonthill Abbey, in Wiltshire, the residence of William Beckford, Esq. It stands on a lofty hill, commanding an extensive and beautiful prospect of the surrounding country. An octagonal tower 278 feet high* is its principal feature, rising from a substructure of mean and confused members, so fixed around its basement as to have the appearance of being built for the support of each other. But, for all this, the tower is acknowledged to be a weak and dangerous structure, and so tottering are the eight surmounting pinnacles that they are held on their bases by strong iron bars, to the no less disparagement of the building than of the builder.

Attached to each of the four principal sides of the tower is a wing ; the westernmost is the shortest, and though not the least lofty, forms the porch, whose front, while every other member of the house is crowded with windows or other ornaments, is occupied by the doorway alone. The gigantic proportions of this arch would have lessened the grandeur of the building, if it had been in other respects agreeable to good taste, but where all is confusion and inconsistency this lofty

* The height from the pavement to the boss in the roof of the lantern is 120 feet 8 inches.

arch cannot be out of place ; nay, it will be admired so long as its wooden doors of nearly two tons weight turn on their hinges by the slightest pressure. The east wing is flanked by two large octagonal turrets. The north and south wings, which contain the principal apartments, are low ; to the former belongs a lofty square tower, and to the latter several towers and buildings, to which are attached turrets, bow windows, cloisters and other appendages. Arches and ornaments of all styles and ages are indiscriminately scattered with a profuse hand over almost every part, to describe which particularly would be difficult and useless.

A PASSER-BY. 

[1822, *Part I.*, pp. 326, 327.]

The brown parlour at Fonthill Abbey, 50 feet in length, receives its appellation from the dark-coloured oak with which it is wainscoted. It is lighted by eight pointed windows. The upper tracery of the windows is enriched with painted glass by Eginton, after the drawings of the late eminent artist, R. Hamilton, R.A., representing a series of some of the most historical personages among Mr. Beckford's ancestors. The room is fitted up with splendid simplicity ; two large pieces of tapestry adorn its northern side. Between them over the chimney is a whole-length portrait of Peter Beckford, Esq., Mr. Beckford's great-grandfather. The windows of the parlour are hung with two suits of curtains ; the inner one is of blue damask, bordered with the tressure of Scotland ; the other suit is scarlet, which gives the light a rich and sumptuous effect. The ceiling, tessellated by a neat moulding, has at each intersection four oak-leaves entwined. Attached to this parlour is a small drawing-room with a groined roof, and an appropriate chimney-piece of Purbeck marble. Opposite we remarked upon a table of curious construction an antique vase of the purest alabaster. A closet in the little room contains specimens of an almost unequalled collection of ancient china, which is dispersed in the various apartments of the abbey. This room leads from the parlour through the cloister to the great hall. Opposite to this a winding staircase conducts to the apartments above, and to a small gallery. We now proceed to the small gallery, which is above the yellow-room ; it contains costly tables, inlaid with Oriental alabaster, and many invaluable pieces of china. Adjoining this is an apartment devoted to the use of such artists as are employed in directing the works now carrying on at Fonthill. It contains a collection of the rarest books and prints illustrative of ancient costume. A passage now leads to Mr. Beckford's bedchamber ; this room has two closets filled with curious specimens of carving in ivory and other rarities. On one side of the apartment is a large glazed cabinet, in which are most exquisite pieces of Japan. This being the south-east extremity of the building, we return northward through the dressing-room to the upper library or gallery, which is vaulted by an obtuse arch. At

the north end of this gallery is a square room that looks through a tribune into the great octagon; there are two of these beautiful openings opposite to each other. The room of the south tribune contains precious cabinets and valuable pictures. All further progress this way being interrupted by the octagon, we return again through the lobby of the dressing-room, whence a staircase conducts to the central eastern tower. Here is a bedchamber hung with the finest Brussels tapestry, an apartment over which terminates this part of the building. The yellow damask room, so called on account of its splendid yellow hangings, has five windows; three of them compose the upper part of the western oriel, the other two face the south. In this room are some of the finest cabinets of Japan and buhl work in Europe; one of the latter formerly adorned the apartments of Fontainebleau, and is remarkable for a beautiful medallion of Louis XIV. On the north-west side of the damask-room, in the small octagon tower, is an apartment called the green cabinet room; it contains two frames with alto-relievos in ivory of the time of Edward I.

We now ascend the staircase that leads to the entrance of the great tower, and come to the suite of rooms that surrounds the octagon. A staircase now winds up to the leads of the circular tower, whence we enter the upper part of the great octagon. Ascending by an inclined plane in a circular direction, we reach the top of this lofty structure, which is 276 feet in height. It would be almost endless to enumerate the interesting objects that are visible from this elevation; some conception, however, may be formed when it is known that the tower has its base upon an eminence considerably above the level of the top of Salisbury spire, and there is no hill in the immediate neighbourhood of sufficient consequence to bound the commanding height of its summit. Descending through the octagon on the north-east side of the abbey, we observe a tower containing several apartments. The upper one is a bedchamber lined with white mullets (the original arms of the house of Douglas), and drawn together in the form of a tent. Re-entering the octagon, King Edward III.'s gallery presents itself. This contains seven lofty windows; opposite to these are portraits of Henry VII., Edward IV., John of Gaunt, the Constable Montmorency, Alphonso, King of Naples, and John of Montfort, Duke of Brittany. Facing the centre window is a fireplace of alabaster, composed of an arch resting upon columns with vine-leaf capitals. Above is a whole-length portrait of Edward III., copied by Mr. Matthew Wyatt from a picture in the vestry of St. George's Chapel, Windsor. The windows of this gallery are hung with curtains of purple and scarlet. Upon a sculptured freize are the achievements of seventy-eight knights of the most noble Order of the Garter, all persons of eminence in English and foreign history, and from whom Mr. Beckford is lineally descended.

In continuation of this stately apartment is a vaulted gallery, wainscoted with oak, and ribbed with deep mouldings, partly gilt and partly coloured; the floor is entirely covered with a Persian carpet of the most extraordinary size and beautiful texture. This gallery receives a glimmering light through six perforated bronze doors, modelled after those of Henry V.'s chantry in the abbey of Westminster. These doors are hung with crimson curtains, which, increasing the solemn gloom, add to the effect of the oratory, which we are now approaching. The oratory is part of an octagon; the roof, which is entirely gilt, terminates at each angle with delicate fern-work resting upon a slender column. From the centre of the ceiling is suspended a golden lamp, elaborately chased. The altar is adorned with a statue of St. Anthony, admirably executed in alabaster by Rossi. On each side are lofty stands, upon which are placed candelabras of massive silver richly gilt. The effect of this solemn recess must be seen to be conceived, nor can any description convey any idea of the awful sensations it inspires.

J. E.

[1822, *Part I.*, pp. 100-102.]

Fonthill Abbey is situated two miles south-west from Hindon, and fifteen west from Salisbury. This stately building, a unique specimen of the triumph of modern skill and genius over the difficulties of construction presented by the Gothic style, may justly be regarded as one of the wonders of the West of England. The mansion itself, its noble apartments, characteristically ornamented and furnished with the most curious and costly productions of art, are well calculated to astonish and gratify the spectator, and inspire admiration of the munificent spirit of the proprietor, and of the varied talent displayed in carrying into execution his princely designs. The circumambient secrecy which exhibits the plastic efforts of creative genius must be beheld to be properly appreciated. Description can only assist the visitor of Fonthill by particularly marking the points of view whence the mansion itself and other prominent objects may be most advantageously surveyed.

The natural and cultivated scenery of this place displays features which are bold, grand, and finely diversified. Nearly the whole of an eminence, which gradually ascends from an open country on the north and a fine enclosed country to the south, is covered with woods, some of which are of ancient growth, but the larger portion of modern plantation. The inner grounds around the mansion are secluded from immediate observation by a lofty wall surmounted with *cheveaux de frise*. On passing this barrier by an Arched Gateway, the road ascends through a dark wood of firs, remarkable for their lofty growth, to a path leading eastward of the abbey, up the Hard Walk, or Hinkley Hill. This path is skirted with laurels, and

enclosed by tangled underwood ; at intervals the Gothic tower and turrets of the mansion appear on the left between the trees. After traversing the space of about half a mile, the path is crossed by the Forest Lawn, a spot decorated with American and other exotic oaks, and affording from its front a distant view of the Beacon Tower. A quarter of a mile farther is the Clerk's Walk, which on the left passes the western front of the abbey. A narrow mossy alley on the right, closely shaded, conducts to a path of considerable extent, bordered with the scarlet thorn, ornamented by the addition of ever-greens and flowering shrubs, and during spring and summer affording an agreeable display of flowers of spontaneous growth.

These parts of the grounds are situated to the north of the mansion. Inclining to the north-west, we enter another path, called the Nine-miles' Walk, being part of a journey of two-and-twenty miles which may be made within the enclosure without retracing the same tract. Pursuing the winding course of this path, we reach the summit of the Great Avenue ; whence, turning to the east, the abbey with its towers and battlements bursts at once on the view. Here folding-gates open into the public road ; crossing which another gate leads to the Terrace, a woody ridge extending about five miles from west to east. Continuing our course along the western boundary, the prospect becomes varied and extensive. Among the most prominent objects which it affords are Alfred's Tower and the adjacent home grounds of Sir Richard Colt Hoare at Stourhead, a domain the decorations of which are strongly characteristic of the classic taste of its owner. Turning southward, and leaving on the left a deep dell, called Bitham Wood, through a narrow path we arrive at the spot already mentioned denominated the Beacon, one of the highest points in the whole range of hills for which this part of the country is remarkable. On the top of this lofty eminence is a plain, consisting of five or six acres, intended for the site of a magnificent tower. The foundations were completed by the late Alderman Beckford, and the walls raised to the height of 9 or 10 feet. This tower was intended to have been the rival of Alfred's Tower. It is a structure of large extent and of a triangular figure, having at each corner a circular bastion, and being overgrown with shrubs and moss so far as to form a picturesque object.

Descending now towards the south-east, near the foot of the Beacon, an interesting view presents itself, displaying amidst the sylvan scenery the abbey surmounted by its Gothic tower, and relieved by an elevated background of woodland landscape. Passing onwards to the valley, we come to a fine pellucid lake, whose glassy surface reflects the slopes, crags, and woods by which it is environed. Hence by a sheltered walk we reach the American Plantation, a spot dedicated to the culture of the hardier ornamental exotics, of lofty growth. Pursuing a south-eastern direction, we arrive at a small

enclosure, called the Chinese Garden, a spot appropriated to the rarest and most beautiful of the floral tribes. A little to the eastward is the kitchen-garden, including a space of eight or nine acres, sheltered from the northern blasts by a wood of lofty pines. From the garden a winding walk, between the trees, leads to an avenue by which the great western front of the abbey is approached, affording a fine view of its grand outline and most striking features.

A few remarks on the situation and general appearance of this specimen of the modern Gothic style of architecture may prove not uninteresting.

From the summit of an eminence, amidst encircling woods, rises the lofty tower, turrets, pediments, and pinnacles of Fonthill Abbey, which assumes externally the character of an ancient monastic structure. It consists of a central tower of an octagonal shape, 276 feet high; a lofty entrance-hall, or vestibule; a wing, or transept, stretching from the tower eastward; and two other wings, branching off from the centre to the north and south. The exterior elevations of each of these portions of the building differ from the others, and display peculiar and appropriate features.

The part of the abbey fronting the north is the least ornamented. The eastern side is distinguished by three square towers, between two of which is placed an oriel, richly sculptured and adorned with shields, armorial bearings, and other devices. The south side has a noble embattled front, at the eastern extremity of which, projecting from one of the square towers, is placed the south oriel, forming the termination of the long gallery, or library, and having below it a door leading to the lobby of the parlour. The western front presents, as its most striking feature, the superb chief entrance, through a doorway 35 feet high, terminating above in a pointed arch, ornamented with a moulding of a similar form, having crockets and a highly wrought finial. On the top of the pediment is a niche, containing a statue of St. Anthony of Padua, surmounted by a cross fleury, the arms of William, the first Lord Latimer, from whom Mr. Beckford is lineally descended. The noble pair of Gothic doors, composed of oak, which close this entrance, are suspended on eight hinges of cast brass, weighing more than a ton, but so constructed as to admit of the opening or shutting of the doors with the utmost ease. These hinges are said to have cost upwards of £400.

This building was erected from the designs of the late James Wyatt, Esq., aided and indeed materially directed by the acknowledged taste of the owner. In the embellishment of the interior, many of the most eminent artists of the country have been employed.

The Manor of Fonthill Giffard (the proper denomination of Mr. Beckford's territorial domain) derives its name from a spring or fount flowing from the hill, and from its having been formerly the

property of the family of Giffard. It was vested in this Norman family at the time Domesday Book was compiled. In the reign of King John it was surrendered to that monarch by the then proprietor, Andrew Giffard, with the consent of his legal heirs. John Mauduit, summoned to Parliament among the Barons of Edward the Third, held Fonthill, and left it, with his other estates, to his granddaughter Maude. It was then possessed by the Wests, Lords De la War, from whom it passed to William Lord Molins, who bequeathed it to his daughter Eleanor. The marriage of this lady conveyed Fonthill to the Hungerfords, from whom it was transferred to the ancient family of Mervin. An heiress of the Mervins brought the manor into the possession of George Lord Audley; and, on the attainder of Mervin Lord Audley, it was granted to Sir Francis, afterwards Lord Cottington. His heirs sold Fonthill to William Beckford, Esq., the patriotic Alderman of the City of London, celebrated for the speech he made to his late Majesty, when Mr. Beckford, then Lord Mayor, presented to the King an Address, or Remonstrance, from the Citizens and Livery of London.

[1822, *Part II.*, pp. 201-204.]

The Great Gothic Hall at Fonthill Abbey is adorned with a number of shields, placed around the cornice at the height of above 70 feet, and representing the arms of Mr. Beckford, and some of his principal quarterings, viz.:

1. Per pale gules and azure, on a chevron argent, between three martlets or, an eagle displayed sable, within a bordure of the fourth charged with a double tressure * flory and counterflory of the first—

* The grant of the double tressure, under the authority of the Earl Marshal of England, registered in the Herald's College, bears date March 20, 1810, and recites that William Beckford, of Fonthill Gifford, in the county of Wilts, Esq., representative in Parliament for Hindon in the said county, only son and heir of William Beckford, late of Fonthill Gifford aforesaid, Esq., deceased, by Maria his wife, daughter, and at length coheir of the Hon. George Hamilton, who was the second surviving son of James, the sixth Earl of Abercorn, had obtained a previous patent, under the late authority, dated August 11, 1791, whereby his arms had been placed within a bordure Or, charged with a tressure flory Gules, as a memorial of his lineal descent from the blood royal of Scotland; for that his mother, the said Maria Hamilton, was descended, in a direct line, from James, the second Lord Hamilton, by the Princess Mary Stuart, his wife, eldest daughter of James II., King of Scotland; that, in consequence of more minute researches since the assignment of the said bordure, it had been ascertained, upon strict evidence recorded in the College of Arms, that the house of Hamilton, and the said grantee, therefore, as co-representative of his maternal grandfather, the said George Hamilton, are by the law of arms entitled to bear the Royal Arms of Scotland among the other quarterings of the illustrious family of Hamilton. That it also appears that, independently of the numerous descents, through various noble families, from the blood royal of Scotland, which are verified in the line of Hamilton, the grantee's grandmother (*ex parte matris*), Bridget, sole daughter and heir of William Coward, Esq., sometime representative in Parliament for the

Beckford; 2. Vert, on a bend a., a cinquefoil between two lions passant guardant gules—Hering;* 3. Quarterly, 1st and 4th—Hamilton; viz., Gules, three cinquefoils ermine, pierced of the field: 2nd and 3rd—Arran; viz., Argent, a lymphad sable; 4. Hamilton before the introduction of the feudal coat of Arran, which augmentation was granted by James IV., King of Scotland, to his cousin-german James Hamilton, the first Earl of Arran, together with that island in fee; 5. Argent, on a bend azure, three buckles or—Leslie; 6. Argent, on a fess azure, three mullets or—Muir; 7. Or, a lion rampant gules, over all a bendlet sable—Abernethy; 8. Gules, three lions rampant a.—Ross; 9. Azure, three garbs or—Comyn; 10. Gules, seven mascles conjoined or—Quincy; 11. Gules, a cinquefoil ermine, pierced of the field—Bellomont; 12. Lozengy or and azure—Mellent; 13. Per pale or and sable, a bend vair—Gwadyr; 14. Gules, a bend a. surmounted by a fess or—Fitzosbert; 15. Or, three chevronels gules—Yvery; 16. Gules, a pale or—Grantesmesnil; 17. Azure, a lion rampant argent, ducally crowned or—Galloway; 18. Azure, fretty and semée of fleurs de lis or—Morville; 19. Or, three piles gules—David, Earl of Huntingdon; 20. Or, a lion rampant within a

city of Wells, was, by her mother, Mary, daughter of William Hastings, Esq., by her grandmother, Bridget, daughter, and at length sole heir of Sir Thomas Hall, by her great-grandmother, Catherine, daughter of Sir Edward Seymour, and by her great-great-grandmother, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Brune, Esq., through several distinct lines, descended from the said blood royal. That the grantee's said several descents, through the families of Coward, Hastings, Hall, Seymour, and Brune, are not participated by any of the other branches of the house of Hamilton, he deriving the same as aforesaid immediately through his said grandmother, Bridget, the wife of the said George Hamilton, whose only male representative he is. That the said William Beckford having intermarried with the Lady Margaret Gordon, only daughter of Charles, late Earl of Aboyne, by whom he had issue two daughters and coheirs expectant, namely, Margaret Maria Elizabeth Beckford, and Susanna Euphemia Beckford, his said daughters, are also maternally descended by numerous lines from the blood royal of Scotland through several sovereign houses of Europe. That, in consideration of such an extraordinary accumulation of descents from royal and illustrious families, and in order to preserve the memory thereof, an augmentation to the bordure, so first assigned, of a double in lieu of a single tressure, was thereupon granted, to be borne by him and his descendants for ever according to the laws of arms.

* This quartering devolves to Mr. Beckford, as representative of his grandmother (*ex parte paterni*), Bathshua, daughter of Julines Hering, of Jamaica, Esq., and sister and coheir of her brother, Nathaniel Hering. She married Peter Beckford, Esq., Speaker of the House of Assembly, who was the son and heir of Peter Beckford, Esq., President of the Council, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Jamaica from the reign of Caroline II. to that of Queen Anne. This family of Hering is of considerable antiquity, the sixth lineal ancestor of the above-named Julines Hering having been seated at Owsley Manor, near Coventry, about the reign of Henry VII. The family has matched with the St. John's, Gellibrand, Oxenbridge, etc. The present Baroness Holland and the late Lord Penrhyn descended from the above Julines Hering, and the Lady of the Hon. and Rev. John Lumley Saville descends from Oliver Hering, Esq., younger brother of Julines.

double tressure flory and counterflory gules—Scotland ; 21. Azure, a cross flory between five martlets or—Saxon Kings ; 22. Argent, a lion rampant azure, a chief gules—Waltheof ; 23. Paly barry indented argent and gules—Aldred ; 24. Azure, six garbs, three, two, and one, or—Kevelioc ; 25. Gules, a lion rampant a.—Gernons ; 26. Or, a lion rampant gules—Meschines ; 27. Azure, a wolf's head erased at the neck argent—Lupus ; 28. Sable, an eagle displayed or—Algar ; 29. Azure, a galley in full sail or, the sails and pennons argent—Caithness ; 30. Argent, on a chief gules, two mullets of the field—Douglas of Dalkeith ; 31. Azure, three mullets in chief a.—Douglas, ancient ; 32. Gules, a fess ermine—Craufurd ; 33. Argent, a man's heart gules, ensigned with an imperial crown or, on a chief azure, three stars of the first—Douglas, augmentation.

The above quarterings, from five to thirty-three inclusive, are introduced by Hamilton, and may be borne by the heirs of the different branches descending from the Duke of Chatelherault.

34. Argent, a chevron between three boars' heads erased sable—Reading.

This quartering is peculiar to the Abercorn branch. Mr. Beckford's maternal great-grandfather, James the sixth Earl of Abercorn, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Reading, Baronet, by Jane Countess Dowager of Monrath.

After ascending by the grand flight of steps into the great octagon (over the lofty arches of which I observed several shields alternately charged with arms of Scotland, the Saxon kings, Bellomont, and Latimer), I entered, on the right hand, the magnificent gallery, sometimes called St. Michael's Gallery, from an intention, as I was informed, of placing in the windows the arms of certain of the knights of that order, from whom Mr. Beckford derives his descent. This gallery is lighted by a grand oriel at the south end, an oriel between two rich Gothic windows on the east, and five windows towards the west. In the first east window are, in stained glass, figures of Venerable Bede and Roger Bacon, with the following arms :

The achievement of Mr. Beckford and the Lady Margaret Gordon, his wife, viz. : Beckford, quartering Hamilton, and Arran, and impaling six quarterings ; viz. : 1. Gordon-Aboyne ; 2. Gordon ; 3. Badenoch ; 4. Seton ; 5. Fraser ; 6. as 1.

Under the above are two achievements, also beautifully stained in glass, of the family of Catesby, of high antiquity in Northamptonshire, and from which Mr. Beckford is lineally descended ; his great-great-grandfather, William Hastings, of Hinton, Esq., having been the son of William Hastings, by Amy, daughter of Hugh Catesby, of Hinton, Esq. On the dexter side are the arms of Sir William Catesby, of Ashby Legers, Knight (who by his first wife, Philippa Bishopston, was father to William Catesby, the adherent of Richard III.), and of his second wife, Joan, the daughter of Sir Thomas Barre, of

Tatington, co. Hereford, by Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Lord Talbot and Strange, of Blackmere, viz. :

1. Catesby—Argent, two lions passant in pale sable, ducally crowned or ; 2. Cranford—Gules, fretty or, a chief a. ; 3. Mountfort—Bendy or and azure, a bordure gules ; 4. Braundeston—Argent, two bars gules, over all a bend azure.

On an escutcheon of pretence :

Barre—Gules, three barrulets argent, each charged with two pallets sable ; a knight's helmet and mantling, surmounted by the crest of Catesby, an antelope's head coupé a. between the attires or, two battle-axes erect proper, with an escroll, and the motto "Secret et heureux."

On the sinister side the achievement of John Catesby, of Althorpe* and Hinton, Esq. (second son of the said Sir William Catesby and Joan Barre), and of his wife Anne, daughter of Sir Robert Litton, of Knebworth, Knt., viz. :

The six quarterings as above, impaling, Litton—Ermine, on a chief indented azure, three ducal crowns or.

In the corresponding second east window, under the figures of St. Etheldreda and St. Columba, an achievement containing a selection of six quarterings of Mr. Beckford, viz. :

1. Beckford ; 2. Hamilton quartering Arran ; 3. Coward—Or, two bars sable, the first charged with two, the other with one cinquefoil, argent ; 4. Hall—Sable, three battle-axes erect argent ; 5. Rogers—Argent, a chevron between three bucks trippant sable, attired or ; 6. Besill—Argent, three torteaux.

Beneath are two other achievements of Mr. Beckford's ancestors of the house of Catesby, viz. : on the dexter side, the arms of John Catesby, of Ashby Cranford, alias Ashby St. Leger, Esq., and of Emma his wife, daughter and heir of Robert Cranford, viz. : Catesby with Cranford, on an escutcheon of pretence—crest, helmet, and mantling as before. On the sinister side, the achievement of John Catesby, of Ashby Legers (son of the former), and of his wife, Roesia, daughter and coheir of Sir William Mountfort, of Lapworth, Knt., viz. : Catesby quartering Cranford ; and on an escutcheon of pretence, Mountfort quartering Braundeston.

The south oriel is decorated with figures of the great Fathers of the Church, St. Jerome, St. Athanasius, St. Ambrose, and St. Augustine, and with four shields of the following paternal connections of Mr. Beckford, viz. :

1. The achievement of Mr. Beckford's late uncle, Francis Beckford, of Basing, co. Hants, Esq.

* Althorpe, formerly Oldthorpe, was possessed by the Catesby family before it passed to the Spencers. This John Catesby inherited the manor from his uncle, John Catesby, by will dated October 10, 1486, and alienated it to Sir William Spencer, of Wormleighton.

Beckford (without the tressure and filially differenced by a mullet), impaling (1) Bertie; (2) Willoughby; (3) Vere; (4 as 1), being the arms of his first wife, the Lady Albinia Bertie, daughter of Peregrine, Duke of Ancaster; and, on an escutcheon of pretence, argent, three barrulets and in chief three lions' heads erased, gules, being the arms of his second wife, Susanna, daughter and heir of Richard Love, of Basing, Esq.

2. The achievement of Francis-Love Beckford, of Basing, Esq. (son and heir of the above by his second wife), and of Johanna his wife, third daughter and coheir of John Leigh, of Northcourt, in the Isle of Wight, Esq., viz., Beckford, quartering, (1) Love, of Basing, as before; (2) Love, of Goudhurst—Vert, a lion rampant argent; (3) Freeland—Argent, a chevron ermines between three mullets, gules; (4 as 1); and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Leigh—Argent, on a chief embattled gules, three plates.

3. The achievement of Mr. Beckford's aunt, Elizabeth, Countess of Effingham, daughter of Peter Beckford, Esq., by Bathshua Hering. Her Ladyship married (1) to Thomas Howard, Earl of Effingham, Deputy Earl Marshal; and (2) to Field Marshal Sir George Howard, K.B.*

Howard and quarterings, impaling Beckford.

4. The achievement of Mr. Beckford's late cousin-german, Peter Beckford, of Stapelton, co. Dorset, Esq., M.P. for Morpeth (only child of Julines Beckford, of the same place, Esq., M.P. for Salisbury, by Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Solomon Ashby, of Ashby Legers, Esq., which Julines was a younger brother of the late William Beckford, Esq., of Fonthill), and of Louisa his wife, daughter of George Pitt, Lord Rivers; viz., Beckford impaling Pitt—Sable, a fess chequy between three bezants. The issue of this marriage, William Horace Beckford, now of Stapelton, Esq., is presumptive heir to the barony of Rivers.

The east oriel is decorated with the following stained glass:

1. In the centre are the arms of James II., King of Scotland, and of his consort, Queen Mary, of Gueldres.

Scotland—impaling per pale azure and or, two lions combatant, the one of the second, the other sable.

The lustre of the descent of Mary of Gueldres can scarcely be

* It is remarkable that individuals of three branches of the noble house of Howard are descended from the family of Beckford, viz.: (1) Henry Howard, Esq. (only son of Lord Henry Molyneux-Howard and nephew to the present Duke of Norfolk), whose grandmother, Mary Ballard Long, was daughter and heir to Thomas Beckford, Esq., grandson of Peter Beckford, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor of Jamaica, before mentioned; (2) Charles Augustus Ellis, Lord Howard de Walden (of Suffolk branch of Howard), whose great-grandmother, Anne, the wife of George Ellis, Esq., was elder sister to the Countess of Effingham, and aunt to the present Mr. Beckford; (3) Thomas and Richard, the two last Earls of Effingham, sons of the above Countess.

credited, except by the patient genealogist who has investigated the lines of her ancestry. Daughter of Arnolph II., Duke of Gueldres and Juliers, by Catherine, of Cleves, the daughter of Mary, of Burgundy, she reckoned amongst her lineal progenitors, Emperors of the East, of almost every dynasty, Czars of Muscovy, and sovereigns of almost every imperial and Royal house in Europe.

2. On the dexter side are the arms of James I., of Scotland, and of his consort, Joan de Beaufort, daughter of John, Marquis of Dorset, the son of John of Gaunt.

Scotland, impaling Beaufort, France and England quarterly, within a bordure compony argent and azure.

3. On the sinister side are the arms of James, Lord Hamilton, and of his consort, the Princess Mary Stuart, daughter of King James II., of Scotland, by Mary, of Gueldres.

Hamilton (without Arran), impaling Scotland, and the crest of Hamilton, out of a ducal coronet or, an oak fruiced, the stem penetrated transversely by a frame-saw proper.

In each angle of this oriel is the royal crest of Scotland, with the motto—"In my defence."* L.

[1822, *Part II.*, pp. 291, 292.]

The approach is well conducted by a road winding through a wood, where the gloomy fir-tree does not preponderate, and where there is a judicious mixture of flowering shrubs with the forest tribes. The first *coup d'œil* of the abbey is well imagined; the eye is always on the look-out for the desired object, and its curiosity is not gratified till it bursts upon the astonished sight at a proper and judicious distance in all the huge splendour of exalted height and magnificence.

The first impression is that of grandeur and novelty of design; for our island cannot produce its rival. After admiring the rich collection of porcelain, plate, gems, books† and paintings contained within the abbey walls, the eye looks around for comfort, and a snug corner for reading, conversation, or contemplation; but, alas! it searches in vain. Finery and show seem to be the ruling genii of the place. The baronial hall, or chapel, which would have been the grandest feature in the edifice, remains unfinished.

* A correspondent states that "Nothing can equal the bustle that has prevailed for a month back on the great western roads, especially on every side which approaches to Hindon, in consequence of immense crowds of people anxious to visit Fonthill. Nearly 15,000 guineas have actually been received for tickets of admission to the grounds and abbey. The princely houses and grounds of Lord Arundel, of Wardour Castle, and Sir Richard Colt Hoare, of Stourhead, have been freely thrown open to the visitors of Fonthill Abbey."

† The library appears to consist of many very valuable articles, but the *ordre des livres* is much wanted in its arrangement, for we find classics, history, voyages, and romances all jumbled together without any classification.

On viewing the exterior of the abbey, the first object for criticism is the turret, which is out of all proportion as to height, being 276 feet; and the iron interlacings between the heavy pinnacles present an actual deformity, and cast a reflection on the stability of its foundation. In short, the principal defect in the general architecture of the edifice is a too great narrowness and loftiness of some of its parts; yet, notwithstanding these defects, no one can return ungratified by the *tout ensemble*.

In viewing the extensive demesnes within the precincts of the abbey, in which (according to Mr. Rutter's useful little Guide) the different walks and rides extend to twenty-seven miles, we lament that Nature has not afforded a greater variety of ground; but Art has accomplished wonders by a happy mixture of lawn and wood. Still, there is much monotony—

“Grove nods at grove, each alley has its brother.”

The point of view from which the abbey appears to the greatest advantage is undoubtedly from the margin of a little lake, whose banks are well fringed with wood; and at a short distance from it is an extensive tract of ground called the American garden, abounding with the greatest variety of plants of that region, and in the season of bloom affording a most delightful sight. . . .

The abbey at Fonthill has not escaped the notice of artists, and since it has been open to public inspection it will become much better known.

The first publication, and as yet the best, as to views, was published by Storer in 1812. Mr. Rutter, a bookseller at Shaftesbury, has since published on the present occasion very good and useful Guides both to Fonthill Abbey and Wardour Castle, and is now preparing a much more copious account of the abbey and its demesnes, which, from his unlimited access to the precincts, and his knowledge of them, will prove a great acquisition to the public. Mr. Britton also meditates a similar production, and has had some ingenious artists employed in taking views of the interior of the abbey; the pen and pencil of Mr. Britton, and his able draughtsman, Mr. Cattermole (who have been resident a long time in the abbey), have paid particular attention to the interior parts of the structure; and they will add a correct ground-plan of the building, which is absolutely necessary in order to understand its intricacies.

The fate of these demesnes has been singularly unfortunate. The two more ancient mansions were consumed by fire, when a third magnificent pile rose up from their ashes during the lifetime of Alderman Beckford, but this also was doomed to fall, not by fire, but by the hammer and axe, much to the sorrow of all those who knew its comforts, and perhaps at this time to the regret of its former owner.

The demesnes at Fonthill were held by the Giffords, Wests, and Delawares, Molyns, Hungerfords, Mervins, and Cottingtons, from the last of whom they were purchased by Mr. Alderman Beckford.

VIATOR.

[1822, *Part II.*, pp. 317-320.]

I proceed now to the series of escutcheons on the frieze of St. Michael's Gallery, painted by Sarney, and affording, in truth, the most chaste and beautiful specimens of heraldic illumination.

I must previously, however, briefly notice two small shields on the frieze near the south oriel, the one on the east side containing the arms of Zouche—Gules, ten bezants, a canton ermine; and the other, on the opposite side, those of Rohan, viz., Gules, ten mascles or, quartering Brittany, ermine. These, I find upon examination, have been placed in order to commemorate Mr. Beckford's numerous descents through the family of his great-great-grandmother, Bridget Hall, from Alan la Zouche, who flourished in the reign of Richard I., and was the son of Geoffrey, son of Alan, Vicomte de Rohan, by Constance, daughter and co-heir of Conan le Gros, Count of Brittany. This singular descent of Zouche from Brittany is strictly verified by the ancient public records of this country, and the patronymic Souche, or Zouche, was evidently adopted to commemorate it.

The first and third compartments of the frieze on the east side of St. Michael's Gallery contains, in fourteen shields, an armorial representation of Mr. Beckford's descent from the family of Mervyn, anciently lords of the manor of Fonthill, viz.:

1. Mervyn—Sable, three lions passant guardant, in pale per pale or argent, and, on an escutcheon of pretence; Squire—Ermine, a squirrel sejant cracking a nut gules, being the achievement of Richard Marvyne or Mervyn, of Fountayne, alias Fontell, and Dorothy, his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Squire. The squirrel, out of the arms of this heiress, was afterwards, agreeably to a common custom in ancient times, adopted as a crest by the family of Mervyn.

2. Mervyn, impalement in blank, Ralph Mervyn, son of Richard, who married — Parre.

3. Mervyn, impaling Hungerford, of Heytesbury—Per pale, indented g. and v. a chevron or, quartering sable two bars azure, in chief three plates, for John Mervyn, of Fonthill, Esq., son of Ralph, and Joan,* his wife, daughter of the Lord Hungerford, of Heytesbury.

* This lady is thus described in the ancient pedigrees of Mervyn, but I do not find her identified in the pedigrees of Hungerford. The presumption, however, is very strong that she was the daughter either of Walter Lord Hungerford, K.G., Lord Treasurer, by Catherine Peverell, or of his son, Robert Lord Hungerford, by Margaret Botreaux. Walter died in 1449; Robert, at an early age, in 1459.

4. Mervyn, impaling (1) Mompesson—Argent, a lion rampant sable, charged on the shoulder with a pinson g.; (2) Goodwin—Gules, a chevron ermine between three leopards' faces or; (3) Drewe—Ermine, a lion passant gules; (4 as 1) for Walter Mervyn, of Fonthill, Esq., son of John, and Mary, his wife, daughter of John Mountpenson, or Mompesson, of Bathanton Welley, co. Wilts, Esq., lord of the manor of Buttington.

5. Mervyn, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Greene—Azure, three bucks trippant or, quartering Latimer, Gules, a cross flory or, for John Mervyn, of Fonthill, Esq., son of Walter, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and coheir of John Greene, of Stotfold, in the county of Bedford, Esq., by Edith Latimer, his wife, daughter and coheir of Sir Nicholas Latimer, of Duntish, co. Dorset, Knight, the lineal heir male of William, Lord Latimer, Baron of Corby, co. Northampton, temp. Edward I.

6. Hall, as before, impaling (1) Mervyn, (2) Greene, (3) Latimer, (4 as 1), for Thomas Hall, of Bradford, co. Wilts, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of the above John Mervyn, of Fonthill, Esq., by Elizabeth Greene, and sister of Sir John Mervyn, of Fonthill, Knight, who died in 1566.

7. Hall, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Rogers, as before, quartering Besill, for Sir John Hall, of Bradford, Knight, son of Thomas, and Dorothy, his wife, daughter and heir of Anthony Rogers, of Bradford, Esq.

8. Hall, impaling Brune—Azure, a cross cercelé or, quartering Rokele, Lozengy, ermine and gules, for John Hall, of Bradford, Esq., son of Sir John, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Henry Brune, of Athelhampton, co. Dorset, Esq., by Frances, second daughter and coheir of Nicholas Martin, of Athelhampton, Esq.

9. Hall, impaling Seymour, viz.—(1) the Royal Augmentation, Or, semée of fleurs-de-lis azure, on a pile gules the three lions of England; (2) Gules, two wings conjoined in lure or, for Sir Thomas Hall, of Bradford, Knight, son of John, who died 1663, having married Catherine, daughter of Sir Edward Seymour, of Bury

It appears by Dugdale, "Mon. Ang.," ii. 483, that King Edward IV., by letters patent, dated February 20, 1471-72, upon the petition of Margaret Lady Hungerford, widow of Robert Lord Hungerford, granted a license to the said Margaret, and to John Cheyne, Esq., and John Mervyn, Esq., to found an almshouse at Heytesbury, and that Divine service should be celebrated in the parochial church there for the souls of divers of the families of Hungerford and Botreaux, and also for the souls of John Cheyne and John Mervyn, when they should depart this life. And the said Margaret Lady Hungerford and Botreaux, by her will declared at Heytesbury, August 8, 1476 (*vide* Dugdale, "Bar.," ii. 209), appointed that, in the chapel which she had begun to build within the cathedral of Sarum, there should be founded a perpetual chantry for the daily celebration of Divine service for the souls of divers of her family, and, amongst others, "for the soul of this John Mervyn, Esq., after this life."

Pomeroy, co. Devon, Bart., great-grandson of Edward, Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector.

10. Coward, as before, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Hall, for William Coward, Esq., Serjeant-at-law, Recorder and M.P. for Wells, who died in 1705, having married Bridget Hall, the only daughter of the above Sir Thomas Hall, Knt.

11. Coward quartering Hall, and impaling Hastings, of Hinton—Ermine, three lozenges in bend, between two bendlets azure, for William Coward, of Wells, Esq., a colonel in the army, and M.P. for that city (heir to his maternal uncle, John Hall, of Bradford, Esq., who died *s.p.* in 1711), and Mary, his wife, daughter of William Hastings, of Hinton, co. Northampton, Esq.

12. Hamilton and Arran, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Coward, quartering Hall, for the Hon. George Hamilton, second surviving son of James, sixth Earl of Abercorn, and Bridget, his wife, daughter and sole heir of William Coward, Esq.

13. Beckford (without the tressure) quartering Hering, and, on an escutcheon of pretence (1) Hamilton and Arran, (2) Coward, (3) Hall, (4 as 1), for William Beckford, of Fonthill, Esq., Lord Mayor of London, and M.P. for that city, and Maria Hamilton, his wife, daughter and coheir of the said Hon. George Hamilton.

14. Beckford (with the tressure) quartering (1) Hamilton and Arran, (2) Coward, (3) Hall, impaling Gordon-Aboyne, viz.—Azure, a chevron between three boars' heads or, for Gordon; within a double tressure flowered with fleurs-de-lis within and adorned with crescents without, of the last, for Seton; for William Beckford, Esq., the founder of Fonthill Abbey, and the Lady Margaret Gordon, his late wife, only daughter of Charles, the fourth Earl of Aboyne.

In the first compartment, on the west side of the frieze in St. Michael's Gallery, I observed seven shields, illustrating the descent of the above-mentioned Edith Latimer from William, the first Lord Latimer, viz.:

1. Latimer, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Ledet—Argent, a fess dancettée between six cross crosslets gules, for William, Lord Latimer, of Corby, who died 33 Edward I., having married Alice, daughter and coheir of Walter Ledet, of Braybrooke, co. Northampton.

2. Latimer, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Gouis—Argent, a lion rampant sable, for Sir John Latimer, of Duntish, co. Dorset, Knt. (second son of William, Lord Latimer), who died 10 Edward III., having married Joan, daughter and coheir of Sir William de Gouis, of Duntish, Knt.

3. Latimer, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Hull—Or, a bull passant sable, collared, and bell gold, for Sir Robert Latimer, of Duntish, Knt. (son and heir of Sir John), who died 35 Edward III., having married Catherine, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Hull, of Child-Ockford, East Pulham, etc., co. Dorset, Knt.

4. Latimer, impaling Peche—Argent, a fess between two chevronels gules, for Sir Robert Latimer, of Duntish and East Pulham, Knt. (son and heir of Sir Robert), and Margaret, his wife, daughter of Sir William Peche, Knt.

5. Latimer, impaling Pipard—Argent, two bars, and on a canton azure a cinquefoil or, for John Latimer, of East Pulham, Esq. (son and heir of Sir Robert), and Margaret, his wife, daughter of Sir John Pipard, Knt.

6. Latimer, impaling Hody—Argent, a fess per fess indented or and sable, between two double cottices of the last, for Sir Nicholas Latimer, of Duntish, Knt. (son and heir of John Latimer, and heir male of the body of William, Lord Latimer), and Joan, his wife, daughter of Sir John Hody, Knt.

7. Greene, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Latimer, for John Greene, of Stotfould, co. Bedford, Esq., and Edith, his wife, daughter and coheir of Sir Nicholas Latimer, of Duntish, Knt. She married afterwards Sir John Mordaunt, Knt., father of John, the first Lord Mordaunt.

In the fourth compartment, west side, are seven shields, showing the descent of Elizabeth Brune, the wife of John Hall, Esq., viz. :

1. Brune, quartering Rokele, as before, impaling De la Pole—Azure, a fess between three leopards' faces or, for Sir Ingelram Brune, of South Okendon, co. Essex, Knt., who died 1400, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Edmund De la Pole.

2. Brune and Rokele, impaling Radford—Argent, a fret sable, a canton of the last, for Sir Maurice Brune, Knt. (son of Sir Ingelram), and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Radford, of Irby, Knt.

3. Brune and Rokele, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Sturmy—Argent, three demi lions guardant, gules, for Thomas Brune (second son of Sir Maurice) and Elizabeth, his wife, cousin and heir of William Sturmy, of Wolf Hall, Esq.

4. Brune and Rokele, impaling Tichborne—Vair, a chief or, for John Brune, Esq. (son of Thomas, and heir male of his uncle, Sir Henry Brune, Knt.), and Anne, his wife, daughter of Nicholas Tichborne, of Tichborne, Esq.

5. Brune and Rokele, impaling Bamfield—Or, on a bend gules three mullets argent, for Sir John Brune, Knt. (son of John), and Jane Bamfield, his wife.

6. Brune and Rokele, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Martin—Argent, two bars gules, for Henry Brune, of Athelhampton, co. Dorset, Esq. (son of Sir John), and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and coheir of Nicholas Martin,* of Athelhampton, Esq.

* The family of Martin is of high antiquity. Sir William Martin, lineal ancestor of the Martins of Athelhampton, was Lord of the Manors of Dartington, Ceamoys, and Barnstaple, co. Devon, temp. Edward I., and the fifth in descent from Martinus de Turon, presumed to have derived his origin from the same family as St. Martin de Tours.

7. Hall, impaling Brune, quartering Rokele, for John Hall, of Bradford, Esq., and Mary, his wife, daughter of Henry Brune, Esq.

From this alliance Mr. Beckford is the sixth in descent, as already stated.

On the east side of St. Michael's gallery are six corbels, terminating in angels, who support the six following shields, illustrating the descent of the founder from the family of Seymour, viz. :

1. Seymour (before the augmentation), quartering Beauchamp, of Hache—Vair ; and Coker—Argent, on a bend gules three leopards' faces or, a bordure sable ; impaling Darell—Azure, a lion rampant ducally crowned or, for Sir John Seymour, of Wolf Hall, co. Wilts, Knt., and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir George Darell, of Littlecote, Knt.

2. Seymour, and quarterings as before, impaling Wentworth—Sable, a chevron between three leopards' faces or, for Sir John Seymour (son of Sir John), Knt., Banneret at the Siege of Tournay, 1513, and Margaret, his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Wentworth, of Nettlested, co. Suffolk, Knt.

3. Seymour (with the royal augmentation in the first quarter), and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Fillol—Vair, a canton gules, for Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset (son of Sir John and Margaret), Lord Protector, and Governor of the person of his nephew, King Edward VI., and Katherine, his first wife, the daughter and heir of Sir William Fillol, of Woodlands, co. Dorset, Knt.*

4. Seymour, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Walsh—Sable, six mullets ; 3, 2, and 1, Argent, a bordure company of the last, and gules, for Sir Edward Seymour, of Bury Pomeroy, co. Devon, Knt. (son of the Duke of Somerset), and Jane, his wife, daughter and heir of John Walsh, Esq., one of the Justices of the Common Pleas.

5. Seymour, impaling Champernowne—Gules, a saltire vair between twelve billets or, for Sir Edward Seymour, Bart. (son of Sir Edward), and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir Arthur Champernowne, of Dartington, co. Devon, Knt.

6. Seymour, impaling Killigrew—Argent, an eagle displayed with two heads sable, a bordure of the last bezantée, for Sir Edward Seymour, Bart. (son of Sir Edward), and Dorothy, his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Killigrew, of Laroch, co. Cornwall, Knt.

* It is, I believe, not generally known that the Protector Somerset, having been divorced from this Katherine Fillol, his first wife, obtained a limitation of the patent, February 16, 1 Edward VI., granting the dukedom to him and the heirs male of his body by Anne Stanhope, his second wife ; with remainder, on failure of such issue, to Edward Seymour, Esq. (afterwards Knight), son of the grantee by Katherine, his first wife, and the heirs male of his body. The heirs male by the second wife, thus strangely preferred, failed on the decease of Algernon, Duke of Somerset, in 1749, whereupon the present Duke's grandfather, Sir Edward Seymour, of Bury Pomeroy, Bart., the heir male of the body of the first Duke, by Katherine Fillol, succeeded, in virtue of that limitation, as Duke of Somerset.

Catherine, the daughter of the last-mentioned alliance, married Sir Thomas Hall, of Bradford, and was, as already stated, the lineal ancestor of Mr. Beckford.

The corresponding six shields on the opposite west side of the gallery show the ascending lines of Champernowne from Elizabeth, Lady Seymour, above mentioned, viz :

1. Champernowne, as before, impaling Bonville—Sable, six mullets; 3, 2, and 1, Argent, for Richard Champernowne, of Modbury, co. Devon, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir John Bonville, Knt.

2. Champernowne, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Boys—Argent, a chevron gules between three cockatrices sable, for Hugh Champernowne, of Modbury, Esq. (son of Richard), and Alice, his wife, daughter and heir of John Boys.

3. Champernowne, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Childerley—Argent, on a chevron between three eagles' heads erased sable three acorns or, for William Champernowne, of Modbury, Esq. (son of Hugh), and Thomasine, his wife, daughter and heir of Sir John Childerley, co. Devon, Knt.

4. Champernowne, impaling Courtenay—Or, three torteaux; and Redvers—Or, a lion rampant azure (differenced by a crescent on a crescent), for Sir John Champernowne, of Modbury, Knt. (son of William), and Margaret, his wife, daughter of Sir Philip Courtenay, of Molland, co. Devon, Knt., a lineal descendant from the Earls of Devon of that illustrious house.

5. Champernowne, impaling Carew—Or, three lions' passant in pale sable, for Sir Philip Champernowne, of Modbury, Knt. (son of Sir John), and Katherine, his wife, daughter of Edmund Carew, of Autre Mohun.

6. Champernowne, impaling Norreys—Quarterly, Argent and gules, in the 2nd and 3rd quarters a fret or, over all a fess azure, for Sir Arthur Champernowne, of Dartington, co. Devon, Knt. (son of Sir Philip), and Mary, his wife, sister of Henry Lord Norreys, and daughter of Sir Henry Norreys by Mary, his wife, daughter of Thomas, Lord Dacres, of Gillesland.

Elizabeth Champernowne, the daughter of Sir Arthur Champernowne and Mary Norreys, married Sir Edward Seymour, as before stated.

In four of the five windows on the west side of the gallery, and opening into the beautiful fountain court, are the arms and crest of Latimer, the crest being a plume of six ostrich feathers azure, tipped or. The arms in four of these windows also illustrate the three last generations of the Beckford family to the present representative inclusively, viz. : 1. Beckford, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Hering. 2. Beckford, impaling Hamilton (before the death of the Hon. George Hamilton, father of the late Mrs. Beckford). 3. Beck-

ford, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, Hamilton (after that event).
4. Beckford, impaling Gordon-Aboyne.

The fifth window is of beautifully stained glass, and a rich imitation of the window called of "the Five Sisters," in York Minster.

[1822, *Part II.*, pp. 409-414.]

I shall now proceed to notice the arms in the truly splendid and unique apartment on the north side of the Great Octagon, called Edward III.'s gallery, the frieze and the seven windows being adorned with the arms of that heroic monarch, and of seventy-seven of the most illustrious Knights Companions of the Order of the Garter, from all of whom I find Mr. Beckford or Lady Margaret lineally descended. Were it not for so singularly rare a union of descents, and for the fact that Lionel of Antwerp, John of Gaunt, Edmund of Langley, and Thomas of Woodstock (being all the sons of Edward III., from whom there is issue remaining) are included in this noble assemblage, I should not have considered such a denomination of the gallery as at all justifiable. Perhaps the most curious, as well as the most direct, of the various lines from the founder of the Garter, which centre in the Duchess of Hamilton, are those by which Mr. Beckford, the twelfth in descent, through the house of Hamilton, and Lady Margaret, the twelfth in descent, through the house of Gordon, from King James I. of Scotland, are equally descended, by Joan of Beaufort, consort of that monarch, from John of Gaunt.

In the centre of the frieze, over the portrait of the sovereign founder (a beautiful copy made by special permission from the ancient portrait in the chapter-room of St. George's Chapel, Windsor), and in the opposite window are the royal arms within the Garter. The arms of seventy-one knights, all within the Garter, are continued along the frieze, and have a most brilliant effect. Those of the earliest date are arranged in the manner of the stalls nearest to the centre shield, viz. :

1. Henry, Duke of Lancaster—England, differenced by a label of three points, charged with nine fleurs-de-lis.
2. Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick—Gules, a fess between six cross crosslets or.
3. Ralph, Earl of Stafford—Or, a chevron gules.
4. Roger Mortimer, Earl of March—Barry of six or and azure, an inescutcheon argent, on a chief of the first three pellets, between two gyronnies of the second.
5. Bartholomew, Lord Burghershe—Gules, a lion rampant or.
6. John, Lord Mohun—Or, a cross engrailed sable.
7. Hugh Courtenay, Earl of Devon—Or, three torteaux, a label of three points azure, charged with nine bezants.
8. Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent—Azure, semée of fleurs-de-lis, a lion rampant argent.
9. Sir Miles Stapleton—Argent, a lion rampant sable, charged on the shoulder with a mullet gules.
10. James, Lord Audley—Gules,

fretty or. (The above are of the first founders.) 11. Lionel Plantagenet (of Antwerp), Duke of Clarence—France and England, a label of three points argent, each point charged with a canton gules. 12. Edmund Plantagenet (of Langley), Duke of York—France and England, a label of three points argent, each point charged with three torteaux. 13. Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford—Azure, a bend argent, cottised or, between six lions rampant of the last. 14. William Bohun, Earl of Northampton—The same, but the bend charged with three mullets sable. 15. Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel—Gules, a lion rampant or. 16. Robert Ufford, Earl of Suffolk—Sable, a cross engrailed or. 17. Edward, Lord Spencer—Quarterly azure and gules, in the 2nd and 3rd a fret or, over all a bend sable. 18. Reginald, Lord Cobham—Gules, on a chevron or, three estoiles sable. 19. John, Lord Nevil—Gules, a saltire argent. 20. Thomas Plantagenet (of Woodstock), Duke of Gloucester—France and England, within a bordure argent. 21. John Holland, Duke of Exeter—England, within a bordure azure, semée of fleurs-de-lis or. 22. Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk—Gules, a lion rampant argent. 23. William, Lord Willoughby—Quarterly, 1 and 4, Sable, a cross engrailed or; 2 and 3, Gules, a cross moline argent. 24. Sir Philip de la Vache—Gules, three lions rampant argent, ducally crowned or. 25. Sir John Devereux—Argent, a fess gules (differenced by a mullet), in chief three torteaux. 26. John Beaufort, Marquis of Dorset—France and England, within a bordure compony, argent and azure. 27. Ralph Nevil, Earl of Westmoreland—As before. 28. William, Lord Ross—Gules, three water bougets argent. 29. John, Lord Lovell—Barry nebuly of six, or and gules. 30. Edward, Lord Cherleton—Or, a lion rampant gules. 31. Richard Vere, Earl of Oxford—quarterly, Gules and or, in the first quarter a mullet argent. 32. William Phelip, Lord Bardolph—quarterly, Gules and argent, in the first quarter an eagle displayed or. 33. Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick—as before. 34. Thomas Montacute, Earl of Salisbury—Argent, three fusils conjoined in fess gules. 35. Henry, Lord Fitzhugh—Azure, fretty or, a chief of the last. 36. John, Lord Clifford—chequy, Or and azure, a fess gules. 37. Walter, Lord Hungerford—Sable, two bars argent, in chief three plates. 38. Humphrey, Earl of Stafford—as before. 39. Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York—France and England, differenced by a label of three points argent, each charged with three torteaux. 40. Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset—as before. 41. Sir John Grey—Barry of six, argent and azure, a label of five points gules. 42. John, Viscount Beaumont—Azure, semée of fleurs-de-lis, a lion rampant or. 43. Thomas, Lord Hoo—quarterly, Sable and argent. 44. Richard Widvile, Earl Rivers—quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, a fess and canton conjoined gules; 2 and 3, Gules, an eagle displayed or. 45. John Sutton, Lord

Dudley—Or, a lion rampant, V. 46. John Bouchier, Lord Berners—Argent, a cross engrailed gules, between four water bougets sable, a label of three points of the 2nd, each point charged with three lions passant guardant or. 47. William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke—per pale, Azure and gules, three lions rampant argent. 48. William, Lord Hastings—Argent, a maunch sable. 49. John Howard, Duke of Norfolk—Gules, a bend between six cross crosslets fitchée argent. 50. Henry Percy, fourth Earl of Northumberland—quarterly, 1 and 4, Or, a lion rampant azure; 2 and 3, Gules, three luces haurient argent. 51. Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk—as before, with the augmentation on the bend. 52. George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury—Gules, a lion rampant within a bordure engrailed or. 53. George Stanley, Lord Strange, of Knockin—Argent, on a bend azure, three bucks' heads caboshed or. 54. Henry Percy, fifth Earl of Northumberland—as before. 55. Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester—as Beaufort, with a baton sinister, argent. 56. Gerald Fitzgerald, Earl of Kildare—Argent, a saltire gules. 57. Thomas West, Lord La Ware—Argent, a fess dancettée sable. 58. Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk—barry of 10, Argent and gules, a lion rampant or, ducally crowned of the 2nd. 59. Thomas, Lord Dacres, of Gillesland—Gules, three escallops argent. 60. Thomas Bullen, Earl of Wiltshire and Ormond—Or, a chief indented azure. 61. Robert Radclyffe, Earl of Sussex—Argent, a bend engrailed sable. 62. John Vere, Earl of Oxford—as before. 63. Henry Clifford, Earl of Cumberland—as before. 64. Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset—quarterly, 1 and 4, Azure, semée of fleurs-de-lis or, on a pile gules, three lions of England; 2 and 3, Gules, two wings conjoined in lure or. 65. Henry Carey, Lord Hunsdon—Argent, on a bend sable, three roses of the field. 66. William Cecil, Lord Burghley—barry of 10, Argent and azure, six escutcheons; 3, 2, and 1, Sable, each charged with a lion rampant argent. 67. Arthur, Lord Grey de Wilton—as before. 68. William Stanley, Earl of Derby—as before. 69. James, Marquis of Hamilton—Hamilton and Arran. 70. James, Duke of Hamilton—as before. 71. William, Duke of Hamilton—quarterly, 1 and 4, Hamilton and Arran; 2 and 3, Douglas: Argent, a man's heart gules, imperially crowned or, on a chief azure, three mullets argent.

In the windows, and opposite their respective portraits, are the arms of two sovereigns and of four other most illustrious knights of the order, viz.:

72. King Edward IV., and 73. King Henry VII., from whom Lady Margaret Beckford was descended through the lines of Stewart, Cochrane, Murray, Stanley, Clifford, and Brandon. 74. Alphonsus V., King of Sicily and Arragon, from whom Lady Margaret descended through the lines of Stanley and De la Tremouille—quarterly, 1 and 4, Or, 4 pallets gules, for Arragon; 2 and 3, divided into three parts,

paleways, argent, 4 barrulets gules, for Sicily; Azure, semée of fleurs-de-lis or, a label gules, for Anjou; and Argent, a cross potent between four cross crosslets or, for Jerusalem. 75. John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster and King of Castile and Leon—Castile and Leon, impaling France and England, with a label of three points ermine. 76. John de Montfort, Duke of Brittany and Earl of Richmond—chequy, Or and azure, a bordure gules, semée of lions of England, and a canton ermine. 77. Anne, Duke de Montmorency—Or, a cross gules, between sixteen alerions purple.

From the two last distinguished and heroic knights, Lady Margaret Beckford was descended through Charlotte de la Tremouille, wife of James Stanley, Earl of Derby, and daughter of Claud de la Tremouille, Duke de Thouars and Prince of Talmont, and of Charlotte de Nassau, daughter of William I., Prince of Orange, the truly illustrious founder of the Dutch Republic.

The soffite, leading to the sanctuary, at the northern extremity of Edward III.'s gallery, contains, in thirty-eight shields, nineteen on each side, an illustration of the descent of Mr. Beckford from King Edward I., through the house of Butler, and of Lady Margaret's descent, through the same noble family, and by an equal number of generations from that sovereign:

On the one side of the Soffite: 1. England, impaling Castile and Leon. 2. Bohun, impaling England. 3. Quarterly, Or, a chief indented azure—Ormond; and Gules, three covered cups or—Butler. 4. Ormond and Butler, impaling Darcy—Azure, semée of cross crosslets, three cinquefoils argent. 5. Ormond and Butler, impaling Welles—Or, a lion rampant, queueé forché, sable. 6. Butler, impaling O'Reilly—Argent, three torteaux in bend between two bendlets, gules, a chief sable. 7. Butler, impaling O'Carroll—Argent, two lions combatant gules, holding a sword erect proper. 8. Butler, impaling Cavanagh—Argent, a lion passant, and in base two crescents gules. 9. Ormond and Butler, impaling Fitzgerald—Ermine, a saltire gules. 10. Ormond and Butler, and on an escutcheon of pretence Fitzgerald, as the last. 11. Butler, impaling MacCarthy—Or, a buck trippant gules. 12. Ormond and Butler, impaling Butler. 13. Butler, impaling Poyntz—Barry of eight, or and gules. 14. Hamilton and Arran, impaling Butler. 15. Hamilton and Arran, impaling Colepeper—Argent, a bend engrailed gules. 16. Hamilton and Arran, and on an escutcheon of pretence, Reading, as before. 17. Hamilton and Arran, and on an escutcheon of pretence, Coward. 18. Beckford, and on an escutcheon of pretence, Hamilton and Arran. 19. Beckford, quartering Hamilton and Arran, and impaling Gordon—Aboyne, and quarterings, as before.

On the opposite side of the Soffite the five first shields are repeated: 6. Ormond and Butler, impaling Beauchamp. 7. Ormond and Butler, impaling Hanckford—Sable, a chevron barry

nebuly argent and gules. 8. Bullen—Argent, a chevron gules between three bulls' heads, couped sable, armed or; and on an escutcheon of pretence, Ormond and Butler. 9. Bullen, Earl of Wiltshire and Ormond (who relinquished his paternal coat of Bullen, and having been created Earl of Ormond, assumed the feudal coat of the earldom), impaling Howard. 10. Cary—Argent, on a bend sable, three roses of the field; and on an escutcheon of pretence, Ormond. 11. Carey, quartering Ormond, and impaling Morgan—Per pale, azure and gules, three lions rampant argent. 12. Carey, impaling Trevanion—Argent, on a fess azure, between two chevronels gules, three escallops or. 13. Wharton—Sable, a maunch, argent, a bordure or, charged with eight pair of lion's gambes in saltire gules, impaling Carey. 14. Wharton, and on an escutcheon of pretence, Goodwin—Per pale, or and gules, a lion rampant between three fleurs-de-lis counterchanged. 15. Lockhart—Argent, a man's heart proper within a padlock sable, impaling Wharton. 16. Lockhart, impaling Montgomery—Quarterly 1 and 4, azure, three fleurs-de-lis or, 2 and 3, gules, three annulets or, stoned azure, for Eglinton. 17. Gordon-Aboyne, impaling Lockhart. 18. Gordon-Aboyne, impaling Stewart—Or, a fess chequy azure and argent, a bend engrailed gules, all within a double tressure flory counterflory gules. 19. Beckford, impaling Gordon-Aboyne, and quarterings, as before.

As this union exhibits so curious and, I believe, unique an example of genealogical beauty, I propose, for better illustration, to offer for the inspection of your heraldical readers the table itself, viz. :

Descent of William Beckford, Esq., and of Lady Margaret Gordon, his wife, from King Edward I., through the illustrious house of Butler [omitted].

A tower of simple but beautiful construction at the north end of the abbey contains a magnificent apartment, called the Lancaster or State bedroom. Around the richly-carved frieze I observed the royal badges of the red rose and portcullis. The denomination of this apartment appears to have been justified by the almost innumerable descents of the owner and of his late wife from Henry, Earl of Lancaster, grandson of King Henry III. For, through the line of Seymour he descends from Maud Plantagenet (second daughter of that Earl), wife of William de Burgh, Earl of Ulster; through the lines of Butler, Poyntz and Berkeley in several ways from Joan Plantagenet (the third daughter of Earl Henry), wife of John, Lord Mowbray; through the lines of Hamilton, Seton, Douglas, Coward, Hastings, Champenowne, etc., in various ways from Eleanor Plantagenet (the fourth daughter of Earl Henry) by both her husbands, Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, and John de Beaumont; and through the lines of Seymour, etc., from Mary Plantagenet (the fifth daughter of Earl Henry), wife of Henry, Lord Percy. Lady Margaret

Beckford had also a most rare descent from Blanch of Lancaster, first wife of John of Gaunt, and daughter and coheir of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, the only son of Earl Henry above-mentioned, viz., through the several lines of Wharton and Goodwin, by an equal number of generations, from the Lord Treasurer, Edmund de Grey, Earl of Kent, who was grandson to Elizabeth of Lancaster, the sister of King Henry IV. Her ladyship was also paternally and maternally descended from the daughters of Earl Henry before-mentioned.

Having, I think, noticed all, or at least the principal, armorial ornaments of the interior, I shall proceed to mention those which I observed in sculpture on the exterior parts of the edifice.

Under the east oriel are two shields, each supported by an angel ; and charged, the one with the arms of Beckford, and the other with those of Gordon-Aboyne. Above these are two shields, the one of Mervyn, the other of Latimer.

Under the south oriel are three shields. In the centre, Beckford, quartering Hamilton and Arran ; on the dexter, Hall, impaling Mervyn, Squire, Green and Latimer ; on the sinister, Mervyn quartering Squire, and on an escutcheon of pretence, Green and Latimer.

Under the oriel of the Lancaster tower are shields of the arms of Martin of Athelhampton, Hall of Bradford, Brune quartering Rokele, and Martin.

The frieze over the cloister is adorned, amongst busts and various emblems, beautifully executed by Bernasconi, with the following crests, viz. :

1. Crest of Beckford, a heron's head erased or, gorged with a collar flory counterflory gules, in the beak a fish argent.

I have seen this crest, as originally borne, on escutcheons of considerable antiquity, and it is probably an heraldical rebus for the family name, *Bec Fort*. The strong-beaked heron is, I believe, found in that part of Gloucestershire where the family of Beckford was anciently seated. It appears, by the "*Mon. Ang.*" (i. 116), that the monks of the abbey of Gloucester had, temp. Henry II., lands at Heycote of the gift of Robert de Bekeford ; and that the Hospitallers of St. John had also a donation of lands at Butiatune from Reginald de Bekeford (*vide* the Inquisition taken in 1185, ii. 529).

2. The additional crest assigned, under the Earl Marshal's authority, to Mr. Beckford, in commemoration of his descent from a coheir of the Abercorn branch of the house of Hamilton ; viz., the crest of that noble family being : Issuant out of a ducal coronet or, an oak-tree fructed proper, the stem penetrated transversely by a frame-saw, also proper, inscribed with the word "*Through*," differenced with a shield pendent from a branch of the tree charged with the arms of Latimer, being Gules, a cross flory or. The grant

states that this distinction is in allusion to Mr. Beckford's descent (through the ancient family of Mervyn, lords of the manor of Font-hill Gifford) from William, the first Lord Latimer,* summoned to Parliament from 28 to 31 Edward I.

3. The crest of Latimer, as before described.

4. The crest of Mervyn—a squirrel sejant, cracking a nut, gules.
L.

Froxfield.

[1801, *Part I.*, p. 306.]

The enclosed is a kind of bird's-eye view of the famous almshouse at Froxfield in Wiltshire, taken from the top of the opposite hill on the south, whereby the whole quadrangle may be distinguished at one view. It contains dwellings and maintenance for fifty widows, which is equally divided between the clergy and the laity. The latter must be of the county of Wilts only, but those of the former are elected from any part of the kingdom. Here are also appointments for a steward, chaplain, apothecary and porter, and the government of the whole is vested in twelve trustees, who are chosen from the nobility and gentry of the county. The gatehouse is a neat piece of architecture. Over it is a good clock for the use of the court, and on the front, under the arms of the foundress, is the following inscription: "Somerset Almshouse for 30 poor widows founded and enlarged by the right noble Sarah, Dutchess Dowager of Somerset, deceased; built and settled according to the will of the 1st Dutchess by Sir William Gregory, Knt., one of the justices of their Majesty's Court of King's Bench, the surviving executor of the 5^d Dutchess, Anno Dom. 1691; and afterwards enlarged for 20 more poor widows, Anno Domini 1775; whereby is compleated the will of the noble foundress."

In the lower seven blank windows of the new part of the building I observed that the architect had cunningly inserted his own name by the device of black bricks placed headways among the red ones (T—H—O—G—A—L—E).

Froxfield is a pleasant village on the great road from London to Bath, two miles and a half westward from the town of Hungerford.

J. STONE.

* The case of the violent transfer (temp. Henry VI.) of the ancient Barony of Latimer, from the heirs of this William Lord Latimer to an alien from the blood, is familiar to all acquainted with the history of our parliamentary baronies. William Lord Latimer, lineal heir of the body of the above William, died 7 Richard II., having had a sole daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who married John Lord Nevil of Raby, and whose son, John Nevil, was summoned as Lord Latimer. John Nevil died without issue 9 Henry VI., having entailed his lands on George Nevil, son of his brother of the half blood, Ralph, Earl of Westmoreland; which George, although a stranger, and not of the blood of Latimer, was, to the prejudice of the right heir, thereupon summoned as Lord Latimer; and the new barony, so created, fell into abeyance upon the death of John Nevil, the last Lord Latimer, 19 Elizabeth.

Great Bedwyn.

[1798, *Part II.*, p. 1013.]

I send you a drawing (Plate I.) of the house in which that illustrious physician, Dr. Willis, was born, in 1621, at Great Bedwin, in the county of Wilts. It stands in a street or lane called Farm Lane, at the north-east end of the town, and is remarkable for its antique appearance, being almost overgrown with ivy, and having a cylindrical stone chimney, to which another of brick has been added.

There is a print of the doctor in the house, said (by an old woman who lives in it) to have been left there by his grandson, Browne Willis, the antiquary, who frequently visited it. Dr. Willis died in London, 1675. A particular account of his life and writings may be seen in the "Biographical Dictionary."

[1842, *Part II.*, p. 413.]

Several curious and highly interesting examples of this species of church decoration have lately been exposed to view on the walls of Great Bedwyn Church in Wiltshire. They are undoubtedly coeval with the structure itself, which is of the Early Decorated style of Edward II., and though much obscured and mutilated by time and accident, are still sufficiently perfect for the eye of a practised antiquary. One series of drawings represents the history of some female saint, and another some story in connection with the crucifixion of our Saviour. Besides these are whole-length figures of kings, bishops, knights and saints, all under foliated canopies. Where the walls are not thus occupied they are painted in diaper, or with a flowing pattern similar to ancient iron-work on church doors, or the ground work so frequently seen in stained glass of this age. These paintings will be left uncovered for a month or two for the inspection of the curious.

[1845, *Part II.*, pp. 42, 43.]

The numbers of Mr. J. G. Nichols's work on "Decorated Tiles," noticed in your last Magazine, have been received by me from time to time with great interest, as giving from other localities specimens of tiles which once existed in great variety in the fine old cruciform church in this place.

Coincident with the publication of the last number I discovered a tile in the chancel of the church at Great Bedwyn, representing a knight in armour, which I had not before seen, and I was agreeably surprised, on receiving the number in question a few days afterwards, to find that Mr. Nichols had engraved it from a copy found at Romsey.

On comparing the drawing of the Romsey tile (Plate LXXX.) with the specimen found here, I perceived that the latter is, in some

respects, more perfect. I therefore determined to send you the above accurate outline of the pattern, together with another of similar character, of which there are several specimens here, fragments of which have been long known to me. You will see that the figures in the first are much better defined than they are on the Romsey tile; the horse is perfect, as is also the horseman's helmet, whilst the shield bears the well-known Templar's cross. The corner behind the sword is unfortunately broken off, so that I can give no idea as to what it contained beyond the two dots copied from the corresponding filling up of the second tile. In Mr. Nichols's drawing of the Romsey tile, this portion seems to me unintelligible, probably from its original being also imperfect.

The second tile represents a knight riding in the opposite direction, with different accoutrements, and armed with a long spear or lance.

These tiles were doubtless intended to appear, when *in situ*, as a pair, and to be repeated in succession as a border to the general pavement. This idea is confirmed by the fleur-de-lis, or shrub, in the centre being only half shown on each tile, and requiring to be put together for the full development of the design. It is not improbable that the pair may be regarded as a Saracen encountered by a Crusader, and that they are in the act of meeting in deadly strife. If so, they must be of the twelfth or thirteenth century, and the decayed state of the specimens infer as great an age, as does also the fact of their being associated in the church with tiles bearing the arms of Eleanor of Castile, the first Queen of Edward I. In corroboration of this opinion it may be further observed that the Saracen's shield is made concave, so that it might fit more closely to the body, and this shape was certainly adopted by Richard Cœur de Lion, and continued by the early monarchs of the House of Plantagenet, as may be noticed on the great seals of that period.

The dimensions of these tiles are $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

It has often occurred to me that the ancient pavement-tiles found in this neighbourhood may have been manufactured at Inkpen, or Kintbury, in Berkshire, where there are pits of fine clay, used to this day by the present race of potters, and many that have been exhausted in former ages by their forefathers. They also manufacture plain tiles for pavements, and occasionally figured tiles, not, indeed, for church purposes, but as rude ornaments for their cottage dwellings, and for articles of use, such as stands for hot irons. Some of the squares are of tolerable design, and may be met with inserted in cottage walls, fifty or a hundred years ago; but generally they are more modern, and some are quite recent.

J. W.

Great Chalfield.

[1834, *Part II.*, pp. 39, 40.]

Great Chalfield is a small parish in the hundred of Bradford, Wiltshire, situated between Melksham and Bath. The manor, which had belonged to Sir William Percy, was, by the marriage of his daughter Katherine with Sir Walter Tropenell, carried into that family, who had other considerable property in Wiltshire. Thomas Tropenell, their son, had livery of Great Chalfield from Henry VI., and was probably the builder of this handsome mansion. He died in 1490, and by the marriage of his daughter and heir to Sir John Eyre, the estate passed to the Eyres. It was afterwards the property of the Duke of Kingston, and now of Sir Harry Burrard Neale, Bart.

There are few more interesting examples of ancient manor houses. It was placed, together with the church, in a considerable area enclosed by a strong wall of stone, and further defended by a moat. Of these, however, no very perfect evidences remain except on the north side, where both wall and moat are entire. The wall is distinguished by a semi-circular bastion near each extremity, and the gateway, approached by a bridge, is at the western angle. It had no immediate connection with the fore-court of the house, but led in a direct line to the Grange, and some other buildings, which stood on the ground now occupied by modern barns and stables. The court on this side (the west), was enclosed by an extensive and rather lofty line of buildings, partly for security, and partly with a view of screening the numerous assemblage of inferior edifices on the outside from the view of the court. The principal gateway is included in these buildings. It exhibits no prominent feature, and is without ornament. The outer and inner archways are 9 feet 6 inches wide. The depth of the buildings is 20 feet, and its width on the inside 12 feet 6 inches.

The opposite side of the court is occupied by the church, which stands in a consecrated area of small dimensions and irregular figure. This elegant little building is about 50 feet long and 30 feet wide, including an aisle on the south side, as broad, but not so long, as the main structure. It is worthy to be associated with a building of so superb a design as the house. The bell-turret, with its crocketed spire of stone, and the west door, sheltered by an arch with a gable springing from brackets or corbels, are features of unusual elegance, and the interior is adorned by a highly ornamented stone screen between the body and chancel.

The principal front of the house faces the north. The hand of innovation has not presumed to violate any of its essential features; but the hand of time is permitted to proceed without a helper in its

gradual work of dilapidation. The hall appears recessed between two broad carvings, in one of which is the porch, groined in stone. The terminations of all the gables are unusually bold and interesting. They consist of whole-length figures of knights armed, and animals supporting shields of arms. The hall chimney is a prominent and lofty feature in the centre, but the two distinguishing ornaments of the design are the bow-windows belonging to the upper apartments in the principal gables. The easternmost is of unrivalled elegance and beauty ; it projects boldly from the wall in a semi-circular form, and rests upon a pier, from the inner of which springs a groined bracket. There are eighteen compartments in three ranges ; the bottom range was never perforated ; its arches are handsomely enriched, but an ornament of exquisite beauty and richness crowns the summit of this window. It is one of the finest specimens of the strawberry-leaf ornament to be found in ancient architecture. The window on the corresponding gable on the side of the porch is angular and very handsome ; it springs from a panelled bracket, and is surmounted by an embattled cornice and a steep roof. The hall is 40 feet 6 inches long, and 20 feet 6 inches wide, and is distinguished by double bays with roofs richly groined in stone. The ceiling is panelled in wood and plaster, and the wooden screen at the lower end, with its double doors, is handsomely panelled. The eastern wing on the ground floor is divided into two apartments. The smaller, which opens into the other towards the north, is entered from the bay of the hall, and is strongly groined in stone ; but it is a low and gloomy apartment, and not well lighted ; four loops, three towards the north, and one in the east wall, were not calculated to render this a very agreeable place of retreat.

The parlour contiguous to the porch is a handsome room. The kitchen is attached to the back or south end of this wing ; it is an unornamented part of the building, and the plainness of this side of the house forms a striking contrast to the richness of the front. The architecture, generally speaking, is in very fine preservation ; but the south side exhibits strong signs of injury, some of neglect, others of failure in the foundations.

The population of Great Chalfield at the census of 1831 was only eighty-three souls. It was assessed to the Property Tax of 1815 at £2,920. The living is a discharged rectory, valued at £6 in the King's Books. The patron is Sir H. B. Neale, Bart., and the present Rector, the Rev. Richard Warner, F.S.A., the well-known author of a long list of works in divinity and topography.

[1838, *Part I.*, pp. 251-256.]

The parish of Chalfield Magna (or Great Chalfield) is situated between Bradford and Melksham, and about three and a half miles from either town. . . .

Chalfield Magna consists (with a trifling exception) of one estate, divided into two farms, purchased many years ago by Robert Neale, Esq. (of Shaw House, Wilts), of the late Duke of Kingston. By him it was entailed upon his two daughters, coheiresses; the present Lady Neale, and the late Mrs. Gawler; with remainder over, in default of issue, to certain collateral relatives of Mr. Neale. By the payment of a proportionate sum of money to the latter lady, Great Chalfield (together with other estates) became vested, in tail, solely, in Grace Elizabeth Neale, the wife of the estimable and esteemed Sir Harry Burrard Neale, Bart., Admiral of the Blue, G.C.B., etc.; a name that stands high on the roll of our naval heroes. Sir Harry Burrard appended the agnomen of Neale to his own family name; and having purchased (for a large sum) the reversionary interest in Great Chalfield, now possesses it in unfettered fee.

It may here, perhaps, be proper to mention that, immediately adjoining to the parish of Great Chalfield, is another district of land called Chalfield Parva, or Little Chalfield: less in extent, and smaller in its population, than its neighbour; and consisting, principally, of a single estate. This little spot appears to have been ecclesiastical property from very early times; as it claims an exemption from the payment of tithe, being formerly part and parcel of the possessions of the ancient abbey of Sherborne, a claim which is said to have been established by an adjudication of the Court of Exchequer, in the beginning of the eighteenth century.* Here stood a parochial chapel, till the middle of the sixteenth century; as we find (in the ancient register of Great Chalfield) the entry of a presentation to it as late as 1537. As this district made part of the possessions of a monastic establishment, this chapel was probably erected by some early abbot, who placed a monk on the spot (as was the common practice with the former abbots and priors of our country with respect to their distant demesnes), to afford the opportunity of attending social worship to the inhabitants of the locality. Of this structure there is no vestige remaining.

The exemption, however, from payment of *all* ecclesiastical dues to the incumbent of Great Chalfield, by the proprietors of Little Chalfield, does not appear, I should apprehend, to be clearly established, since a terrier (preserved in the Episcopal Registry of Sarum,

* The connection between Great and Little Chalfield has been, and is, very intimate, the proprietors of the lesser district having been accustomed to marry, christen, and occasionally bury in the church and churchyard of the greater one, as well as to attend the service of its public worship.

and extracted for the present incumbent) recognizes an annual sum of 40s. as having been paid, from the one to the other, as a remuneration for their accommodation in the church of Chalfield Magna.*

But to return to the principal subject of my communication—"unknown to fame" (at least in modern times †) as Great Chalfield is, from its retired situation, its distance from much-frequented roads,

* The whole of this extract is curious. Among other points worth notice it manifests a singular carelessness on the part of the earlier incumbents of this rectory with respect to its property, and explains the provision for its parson's accommodation when he was upon his living, there never having been any rectorial residence there. The extract was communicated by Mr. Warner (the present incumbent) to Mr. Walker, who has given it in his very elegant and beautiful work, entitled "The History and Antiquities of the Manor-house and Church of Great Chalfield, Wiltshire; forming Part II. of Examples of Gothic Architecture, third series, 4to. Printed for the author, Thomas Larkins Walker, architect; and sold by John Weale, 59, High Holborn; John Williams, 10, Charles Street, Soho; and Martin Taylor, Wellington Street."

"First, we returne that there is noo house or outhouses within our parish of Chalfield Magna, that belongeth to the parsonage, save only one chamber in the mannor-house, which is commonly called the minister's chamber; but ancient men have reported that they have heard from other ancient men that were before them, that said that there was a parsonage-house, which stood on a ground near the manor-house called Parsonage Close, alsoe Pen's crosse.

"Alsoe, wee returne, that, upon the report of antient men long since dead, there have ben glebe lands belonging to the parsonage of Chalfield Magna; but that any of this incumbent's predecess^{rs}, for many ages past, did ever possess or enjoy them, we never heard; neither is there any terrier to be found thereof, albeit diligent search hath been made in the Courts at London and elsewhere by the incumbent.

"Alsoe, we have heard that one Mr. Bradshaw, who was parson of our said parish before the present incumbent, hath his dyett, the keeping of his horse and sixteen pound per annum, of the owners of the said mannor of Chalfield Magna, in lieu of his tythes due out of the said mannor for the space of forty years, and that the pr'sent incumbent hath had, for the space of forty years, a composition of two and thirty pounds yearly, paid him by the owners of the said mannor, in lieu of his tythes and the keeping of a horse; and besides exempted and discharged from all taxes and payments whatsoever, except the tenthes payable to the King's Ma'ty and procuracons to the said Lord Bishop.

"Alsoe, the present incumbent had the tythes of a farme, called Moxham's farme, lying within the said p'rish, worth to him five pounds per annum, and the tyth of a ground lying within the same p'rish, called Bowood, worth ten shillings per annum.

"Alsoe, the present incumbent hath received forty shillings by the yeare from the owners of West Chalfield, which doe usually come to his church.—JOHN WILSON, Rector. CHRISTOPHER MOXHAM."

† The manor of Great Chalfield has had its day of importance. Both of Anglo-Saxon antiquity, and minuted in the reign of Edward the Confessor (whose survey was the foundation of Domesday Book) as in the possession of Wallef. It was then a whole knight's fee, held by knight's service as part of the "honour of Trowbridge," and conferred upon its possessor the office of Constable of Trowbridge Castle. It appears to have made, successively, a part of the ample possessions of the Rous family, the Percys, the Fitzwarrens, the Tropenells, and the Eyles. The constablership of Trowbridge Castle was lost to the owners of Chalfield in the reign of Henry VI.

and the absolute want of any passable public one to the premises ; it has, notwithstanding, attracted the attention of some of our more diligent antiquaries. . . .

The front, and principal, elevation of Chalfield manor-house (which has an aspect nearly northern) is striking and beautiful ; and particularly picturesque, from its exhibiting several of those deviations from uniformity—those recedings and projections ; abutments and angles ; varied patterns, grotesque ornaments, and quaint devices, which seem either to have enamoured the taste, or gratified the whim, of the early English architects—producing, altogether, a stirring effect upon the imagination : which is much heightened by the grotesque effigies of “men at arms,” or squires, clad in the costume of their own times ; supporting shields, swords, or matchlocks, and armorial bearings, and surmounting the points of the gables.*

The most elegant features, however, of the northern elevation are two oriel or bay windows, projecting from the principal chambers, or state rooms, at the eastern and western extremities of the building ; the latter of a more simple, the other of a gorgeous and complicated, pattern. This window, indeed, is so rich in design and delicate in execution, both without and within, that, with my imperfect knowledge of what is usually called Gothic architecture, I should have attributed its construction rather to the time of Edward III. than to the reign of Henry VI., the era to which more competent antiquaries have assigned the whole of the mansion.

A porch, or rather groined camera (for it is in a line with the mansion wall) with its old, oaken, iron-knobbed door, its little jealous

* The present distinguished proprietor of Great Chalfield, Sir Henry Burrard Neale, Bart. (who immortalized himself by his firm and gallant bearing at the Nore mutiny), in that spirit of honourable liberality which marks his character, and with a laudable anxiety to preserve this interesting example of ancient domestic architecture in as perfect a state as possible, has at different times expended considerable sums to effect this object. Owing, however, to the southern main wall of the building having been taken down (probably a century or two ago), together with a series of apartments connected with it, the only remaining support of the ponderous roof was the slight intermediate wall which separated the northern and south-eastern divisions of the house. The consequence of this injudicious measure was such a dislocation of the roof and bulging of the south-eastern wall as rendered it absolutely necessary to remove them altogether. In this sad, but inevitable demolition, the noble hall, with its contiguous little groined apartments and beautiful oaken screen, and the state chamber (fronting the north) with its elaborate chimneypiece (inserted in the time of James I.), met their final doom :

“Alas ! they perish’d all—all in one hour !”

Care, however, has been taken to preserve and properly support the grand front elevation to the north, so that for a century to come the external appearance of the mansion (on this quarter) will present to the eye of the visitor the same Gothic architectural beauties as it had been wont to do previously to the dismantling of the interior. Mr. Walker’s drawings were happily made before the demolition took place. He has given most minutely accurate engravings of all the various missing, as well as existing, features.

wicket, and its original securities of wooden bolts, forms the northern entrance into the principal passage of the manor-house. On the right are the rooms commonly used by the former and present inhabitants, and on the left stood (for, unfortunately, I must now use the past tense), till within these six months, a noble oaken screen, of tasteful and elaborate workmanship, corroded somewhat, indeed, by the iron tooth of time, but preserving all the principal features of its primeval beauty.* It had a peculiar interest, from its being intimately connected with old spirit-stirring feudal manners: for it supported the gallery, where, on gaudy days, when the "feast" was "stately," and the "cheer" was "high,"

"The Minstrel waked the warbling lyre,"

and either moved or soothed the minds of the numerous guests who were seated at the long board in "the lofty windowed hall" below.

This noble apartment was the boast and glory of Chalfield manor-house, measuring 40 feet in length, 20 feet in breadth, and 20 feet in height. It had an ample spandrelled fireplace on the northern side, and two rich bays, opposite to each other, at the eastern end, communicating with a groined apartment on one side, and on the other by a passage-room and staircase, with the state bed-chamber and some smaller apartments, or withdrawing closets. The ceiling of this noble room was flat, or at least very slightly elliptical, divided into eight large squares by stout oaken beams; and each of these subdivided into four smaller squares by rafters proportionably less in size. The various intersections of this framework were ornamented with bosses, bearing the crest of the Tropenell family—a bullock yoke—and their armorial motto, in old French:

"*Le joug l'era belement,*"

which may be freely translated, "the yoke sits lightly,"—a pregnant saw; but whether allusive to the mild restraints of the happy marriage, or to the tillage of "the broad lands" of the lord who adopted it, must be left to the profound inquiries and authoritative decision of future antiquaries.

In the inner wall of each of the little withdrawing closets, above the hall, the ingenious and prudent device (common in similar buildings of the olden time) was adopted, of "having an eye and ear" upon what was going on amid the revelry below. This was nothing more nor less than the insertion of a stone mask into the wall, rudely representing the human countenance, and pierced with holes for the eyes and mouth, a contrivance by which the lord might not only be furnished with an opportunity of "seeing the guests" when they were "merry in the hall, and beards wagged all," but of

* Mr. Walker's restoration of this screen, in his seventeenth plate, is exceedingly ingenious and skilful.

judging also whether, while they quaffed "the red Metheglin's stream," or drained "the black jack" of its "jolly good ale and old"—so highly esteemed by the cloistered monk*—they rigidly adhered to that excellent adage, coeval with themselves,

"*See merrye ande wise.*"

This magnificent hall, which had so often echoed in days of yore to the sound of the harp, the laugh, and the shout, together with its contiguous apartments, is now no more. Their site has been recently covered by comfortable modern apartments.

The church (within 40 yards of the dwelling-house), though small and plain, has some features of great interest and beauty, and which seem to point to an earlier era of erection than that usually attributed to its ancient parts, the reign of Henry VI.† Its porch is both singular and tasteful in pattern, and its crocketed spire gives a pleasing richness and variety to the western end. The chief object of curiosity and beauty, however, is within—a very elegant stone screen, now separating the chancel from the body of the church, but formerly placed in front of a private chapel, added by one of the Tropenells to the southern side of the edifice. Armorial bearings of this family and of others connected with it by marriage, and numerous diversified and appropriate enrichments, render this piece of masonry well worth the attention of the ornamental architect.‡ The ramifications of the Gothic windows of the church having been recently fitted up with ancient stained glass, the solemn effect upon the mind usually produced by the interior of an ecclesiastical structure is considerably increased. The little fabric has also a piscina, and a niche for holy water. One solitary tablet, of Gothic pattern, adorns its inside on

* Warton's "Grave of King Arthur" and "Grammar Gurton's Needle."

† The original Parish Register of Great Chalfield (still preserved) is one of the most ancient in the kingdom, its first entry bearing date January, 1545, only nine years after the order for such a parish regulation had been promulgated. Burn's "Ecc. Law," iii. 273. The manuscript is small and thin—9½ inches long and 5½ broad; its three first entries (together with the title) are as follow:

"THE REGISTER BOOKE OF GREATE CHALDFEILDE.

1545. In die conv'sionis Sancti Pauli, about five of the clock in the
January 25. afternoone of the same day, was borne Elizabeth Eyre, in the yeare
Nativitie. of the raigne of King Henry the Eight, the xxxvij. 1545.
1547. Sept. 1. September the first, about foure of the clocke in the morninge,
Nativitie. was borne Mary Eyre, Anno Regini Edwardi Sexti 1^o. 1547.
1549. June 14. June the fourteenth, about five of the clock in the afternoone, was
Nativity. borne Margaret Eyre, Anno Regis Edwardi Sexti tertio 1547."

The average population of the parish, including adults and children, householders and domestics, has been for some time past nearly thirty. Two large farmhouses and one smaller one constitute the number of its residences.

‡ Mr. Walker has given a fine restored view of this member of Chalfield Church.

the southern wall, recording the memory of departed worth in the following words :

“Sacred to the Memory of Mrs. ELIZABETH PEARSON, daughter and heiress of John Leake, Esq., of Salter's Hall, in the county of Salop, relict of Thomas Pearson, Esq., of Tettenhall, Staffordshire, and mother of Anne (her youngest daughter) the wife of the Rev. Richard Warner, Rector of this Parish. Full of faith, hope, and charity: she put off this mortal, to be clothed with immortality, on Thursday morning the 12th day of April, 1832, in the 89th year of her age. ‘Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.’—Rev. xiv. 13.”

The little churchyard bears upon its surface the “mould’ring heaps” of a few humble graves, the receptacles of all that was mortal of forgotten “village hinds,” as well as three table monuments, one of recent, and the others of more distant, date. Within the iron railings which enclose the remains of two of the departed the perennial flowers and shrubs that blossom with every returning spring are pleasing emblems of that revived and “flourishing immortal youth” which is graciously promised to every sincere and practical Christian.

VICTOR.

Kemble.

[1865, *Part II.*, p. 631.]

The true source of the Thames is at Ewen, or Ewing (a corruption of the Saxon *æwelm*, “a spring”), a tithing of the parish of Kemble, North Wilts.

That it was regarded as the origin and source of this beautiful stream is evident from a Charter of Caedwealha which gives to St. Aldhelm land “Ex utraque parte silvæ cujus vocabulum est Kemele, de orientali plaga termini stratarum, usque famosum Amnem qui dicitur Temis, c. et xl. manentes,” etc. (See my communication to the *Archæologia*, vol. xxxvii.)

But there is other evidence to prove the fact, although it appears to have been overlooked by antiquaries and topographers. These worthies have derived the name of the town of Cricklade from the Celtic language, whereas it is compounded of two purely Anglo-Saxon words, *i.e.*, *cric*, “a creek,” and *gelade*, “an emptying,” thus ignoring the very name of the Churn, which empties itself into the Thames on the north side of the town.

Again, if it be maintained that the Churn had its designation from the earliest times, is it not another proof that it was always considered as a distinct stream, and merely tributary to the main stream of the Thames?

J. YONGE AKERMAN.

Kingston Deverill.

[1815, *Part II.*, p. 393.]

Kingston Deverill, of which I send a view (see Plate I.), is the principal of the five villages* of that name in Wilts. They are all situated in a valley towards the south-west extremity of the county, near Warminster. Very little appears to be known of their antiquity, and it is an inquiry which at present shall not be pursued. It may be sufficient to notice the several churches, more particularly that which illustrates these remarks. The church of Kingston Deverill is exceedingly picturesque from the disposition of its parts, but the architecture is not of great antiquity. It has a body and chancel, with a handsome but plain square tower, supported by large buttresses in the centre, at the north-west angle of which is a stone turret and pinnacle, terminating the staircase. It is entered by a porch on the south side, to which is attached a small aisle extending to the tower. The interior produces nothing to notice except the font, which is very old; the body is square, supported by four small columns round a larger in the centre.

Monkton Deverill Church is a small, mean building, with a tower at the west end of a long plain aisle, without a single feature worthy of notice.

Brixton Deverill is similar, with the exception that it has been more modernized. The tower was originally higher, but was taken down, and now rises little above the roof.

Hill Deverill is a small and extremely ancient building, has a body and chancel; to the former is attached the porch. This part of the building is in the early Pointed style and very plain, over the west end is a bell turret. It contains an ancient large altar tomb, having quarterfoil compartments with shields bearing arms. There are several monuments to the Coker family.

Longbridge Deverill has a handsome church on very picturesque ground. The tower at the west end is of good proportion, has an elegant west window, and is terminated by battlements. The body and chancel are short: the former is lighted by good windows, the latter has been much altered. The interior is plain, and has a curious Saxon font. There are several monuments: one to the memory of Sir John Thynne, founder of Longleat House, 1580, aged sixty-five years.

AN OBSERVER.

Kingswood.

[1830, *Part I.*, pp. 36-39.]

Kingswood, in the hundred of Chippenham, a populous place, principally inhabited by clothiers and persons employed in that

* The other four are Monkton Deverill, Brixton Deverill, Hill Deverill, and Longbridge Deverill.

branch of manufacture, is seated in the vale of Gloucester, a small distance from the town of Wotton Underedge in Gloucestershire, by which county it is surrounded. Formerly particular places were sometimes separated from the counties in which they were naturally situated and adjoined to others, for the purpose of forming integral parts of one barony; but how this principle applies to Kingswood, I know not. However, though in the county of Wilts, it is in the diocese of Gloucester, and deanery of Dursley.

The site is flat, principally consisting of rich meadow lands, and between the main village and the hamlet of Nind runs a rivulet, upon which are erected mills.

The old Roman military way, branching from the great fosse, runs through this place to Aust Passage (Collinson's "*Somersetshire*," i. 160). No information on the spot enabled me to identify it, but there is an old road at the side of the manor-house, and almost adjoining to its out-buildings, which from its appearance and direction was, perhaps, the road Mr. Collinson alludes to.

Leland ("*Collect.*," i. 32) tells us that there was a monastery* founded at Tedbury, co. Gloucester, by Reginald de St. Walery, which was transferred to Kingswood, in consequence of which Roger de Berkeley, who had been the instrument of this translation, was considered as founder. Of this second foundation there is the following account in Mr. Smith's manuscript "*History of Berkeley Hernesse*," at Berkeley Castle, tit. Caldecote: "The Abbey of Kingswood, by Wotton Underedge, a monastery seated and in the county of Wilts, of the foundation of that ancient Saxon family of the Berkeleys, of Dursley, though compassed round about with the parts of Gloucestershire, and hath been taken as part of that manor of Kingswood, anciently of old called Acholt, wherein the abbey house was seated, though now severed by the grant of _____ in the _____ year of his reign, made to [Sir John Thynne, Knt., had Letters Patent for the site of this abbey, and other lands in Wilts, 2 Elizabeth, Jones's "*Index*," vol. i. And see Tanner, under the article Kingswood.]

"And King Henrie the Third, in 11th of his reigne, confirmed to the Abbot of Kingswood and his Convent, the manor of Acholt, which Roger de Berkeley, of Dursley, gave to that Monastery, and all other their lands as freely as King Henry the second, his grandfather, confirmed them to them; in which are also divers liberties recited. And to bee free, 'ab omni seculari exactione et servicio,'† as by Rot. Chart., 11 Hen. III. pars 1. mem 12. appeares. For which

* "*Of Cistercians*," says Mr. Smyth, from the "*Pat. Rolls*" of 22 Edward I., m. 6 (printed in Meyner's "*Apost. Benedict.*," 62 seq.), and which he, who wrote before the publication of Dugdale, says, "sheweth of what order each monastery in England was of."

† This they had long before claimed (Hearne's "*Lib. Nig. Scacc.*," i. 166, edit. 1774).

charter of confirmation, the Abbot gave to the King 10 marks, as by Rot. Fin. 11 Hen. III. appears, where of the premisses is also a particular expression."

3 Henry V., February 2, 1415. Thomas, Lord Berkeley, left by his will, among other legacies, to the church of Kingswood, his best collar of the King's livery, his pair of quilt vestments wrought with white angels, etc. (*ibid.*, Mr. Smith, in "Lives of the Berkeley Family," ii. 349 MS.).

"The last Abbot of the monastery, before the dissolution thereof, was William Bewdeleye, as a leaf shews, made by him, 20th Dec., 28 Hen. VIII., and the monastery was dissolved by surrender" (*ibid.*, Mr. Smith, "Berkeley Hernesse," *loc. sup. cit.*).

In 1610 the manor was, among other lands and revenues, assigned for the establishment of Prince Henry, and then valued at £78 9s. 6d. per annum (Ordinances of Royal Households, 314). It now belongs to Mr. Wale, of Adderley.

"The improprie rectory of Kingswood (if I may soe call it), and the £7 per annum of antient custome, paid by the inhabitants there, or rather £6 13s. 4d., were by the Letters patent of Queen Eliz. dated 21 Julii, a^o 5^{to} Eliz. granted (*inter alia*) to Humphry Shelton, Edmund Hunt, and their heires, from whom the same forwith came, accordinge to the truste in them reposed, to Thomas Hanbury, one of her auditors, and from him to Francis his son, who aliened the same to Roger Fulse" (Smith, "Berkeley Hernesse," *loc. sup. cit.*). The inhabitants have still a payment, called the Clobury rents, charged upon certain houses and lands. Whether it was this Mr. S. alluded to I could not learn. I was also informed that no other tithes or modus was paid than £10 per annum to the minister and a like sum for the church.

Of the ancient buildings remaining here the principal is the abbey gate, a relic of the rich florid Gothic work—in part, at least—probably built not long before the Dissolution. In the window over the gateway the mullion is a flower resembling the cone and leaves of a pine, but more slender, whose branching shoots form the ramifications of the bend of the window. Above is a rich cross, with our Saviour crucified, rich knots down the coping, and on each side the pine end are two tufted pinnacles. Above the gateway is a demi-angel, with wings displayed and a plain shield covering his breast. Upon the right side an empty niche with a rich canopy, above which, in the corner (for the hollow of the niche is carried above the canopy), is a bird descending obliquely, which shows plainly that it was filled by the statue of a Pope, this being their uniform distinction in the cuts of the "Golden Legend."* Upon the other side of

* The dove, or Holy Ghost, whispering in their ears, obviously alluding to their office and supposed infallibility. The statue in question was perhaps one of the four Fathers that was a pope, viz., St. Gregory. This, however, is quite uncertain.

the gateway is a flight of steps leading to a door.* The roof within is richly vaulted with numerous heavy ribs, elaborately moulded with foliage, roses, etc., as the intersections; and in one corner an abbot's head with his mitre. In the centre is a large rosette.

About a mile out of the town is a fine old house, which I was informed was another abbey, and perhaps the cell, which the monks of Tintern had here ("Lel. Col.," i. 104). There is work in this house of the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries.

There is a rich cross formy charged with roses upon the roof of the projecting porch; and over the door, on a plain shield, is

"W.
T. E.
1705,"

for Thomas and Elizabeth Wichell, of Bourton, near Wotton Underedge, who resided here at the manor-house.

Near, or upon the site of a narrow slip of ground, about 6 yards wide and 30 yards long, stood an ancient church. Within this place are flat stones for families of the names of Thomas Smith, Esq., 1732, and branches of his family, as well as for Robert Fenley, clothier, 1772, and his wife and children.

The present church is a modern building, entering between two pillars at the west end, and a small turret for a bell at top. The east end is all along the wall painted in the most paltry style of modern beautification, like the frontispiece of a barn theatre or ale-house puppet-show, to represent the sky with a glory and Jehovah in the middle, Belief, Commandments, pelican feeding her young ones (emblematic of the sacrifice of Christ), communion-table clothed in crimson velvet and gold lace, etc. On each side the altar are two long narrow-arched windows, in which are the arms of Berkeley twice repeated, crosses paties, rosettes, stars, suns, foliage, tabernacles of niches; a shield with a narrow saltire of spiked thorns, surmounted by four sceptres in cross, conjoined in the fess point at their bases or (as I cannot think the saltire to have been raguly, the whole seems to me to have been a complex pun upon the cross, crown of thorns, and kingdom of Christ); a very fine head of a pilgrim in a light crown and couched hat, turned up before and an escalop-shell in front; and on the opposite window another head of a nobleman of the fourteenth century, as is plain by the head-dress. On the same window, Sable, fretty azure, between every joint a fleur-de-lis or, twice repeated, ermine in a canton gules, a cross crosslet fitchy, Argent, joined to the stems of the cross; below the transverse beam a square banner of St. George's cross (badge of a Crusader), parts of the following letters: H. I. HHPS. In the window of the side wall a lion passant, or, leaves, stars, foliage, flowers within circular bodies.

The pulpit, on one side of which is the King's arms, has a red

* Modern, and not for the ancient use of those by the entrance of the churches.

velvet cloth, with a fringe and a cypher (M. B.), Mary Blagden, 1723. The benefactions, as too numerous, I omit, adding only that the table tells us the church was built A.D. 1722.

There is only one monument in this church (brought from the old one) worthy note. It is a mural tablet on which is Or, on a bend sable, three escalops argent, crest a demi-hind saliant, attired and unguled or.

"In memory of his deere Father Thomas Webb, late of Kingswood, son of Richard Webb, of Wotton Underedge, gent., who died May 24, 1674, aged 84. His obsequious * son, Richard Webb, set up this monument."

(Then some verses.)

"And in memory of his virtuous mother Persis, daughter of Anthony Webb, who died 15 years before, viz., April 17, 1659."

On a brass on a flat stone in the churchyard :

"Juxta requiescit Reverendus Richardus Nelmes, M. M. C. C. C. apud Oxonienses quondam socius, theologus acutus, medicus sagacissimus, omnibus iis artibus, quæ vitam et ornant et utilissimam reddunt, excelluit. Mors tua, vir præstantissime, ecclesiæ semper luctuosa, patriæ funesta, bonis omnibus acerba, divinâ illâ quâ enituit scientiâ, quæ, Deo juvante, jam sæpe et feliciter aliorum, morbis et languoribus sanitatem restituit, sua solum fata retardare heu frustra, tentavit. Medio enim cursu, morte triumphante, natura lugente, correptus, obiit.

Anno { Nov. die X.
Christi M DCC XXIII.
Ætat. XLI.

Hic etiam jacent exuvix Richardi et Catharinæ Nelmes, filii et filix Richardi Nelmes supradicti."

T. D. F.

Kington St. Michael.

[1803, *Part II.*, p. 717.]

At Kington St. Michael, Wilts, we are informed by Tanner, there was a small nunnery of Benedictines. It does not appear who was its founder, though it was evidently founded before the second of Henry II. In the time of Henry VII. here was a prioress and eight nuns, who were reduced to four just before the Dissolution, when the revenues were valued, according to Dugdale, at £28 9s. 1d. per annum.

The remaining buildings are now appropriated to a farmhouse and its offices. The ancient hall is used as a kitchen. Since my remembrance the buildings formed three sides of a quadrangular court, but one of these sides has been taken down, and the walls of the other parts so much altered, that very little remains of the ancient building. The annexed print (Plate II.) represents the western side, which faces a large enclosed court. The present kitchen-garden occupied the burial-ground. A very large circular arch that belonged

* It anciently signified "Careful of obsequies or of funeral rites."—*Vide* "Jo. and St. Sh.," vi. 483.

VOL. XXV.

18

to the chapel yet remains ; but the site of this sacred building is now occupied by pigstyes.

About half a mile east of this place is a farm called Easton, or Easton Pierce, where John Aubrey first saw the light. There are two farmhouses bearing that name, and are locally known by the appellations of Upper and Lower Easton. I am inclined to think that the latter was the place of his nativity and residence ; for I recollect that, about twenty years ago, there were many old rooms in this house, several parts of rusty armour, and various other characteristics of an ancient mansion. These have been all swept away, and a snug modern building erected on its site. The priory is about a mile from the church of Kingston St. Michael, and six miles from the large abbey of Lacock.

J. BRITTON.

Knole Odierne.

[1821, *Part I.*, p. 194.]

R. H. remarks that there is a village in Wiltshire called Knole Odierne, which probably derived its name from Hodierna, the nurse, mentioned by Madox in his "History of the Exchequer," as having lands in the neighbourhood of Mere, which were tillaged. Knole Odierne is the adjoining parish to that of Mere. Information respecting this personage will much oblige the writer.

Lacock Abbey.

[1835, *Part II.*, pp. 377-379.]

The accompanying facsimile of this very curious inscription has been recently published in Mr. Bowles's "History of Lacock Abbey," at which place the original is preserved ; and we have been induced by its singularity to transfer it to our pages.

A practice of which instances are found in some Roman inscriptions, and which was imitated by our earliest monastic scholars, is here exhibited in excess. Within such letters as afford cavities practicable for the purpose, those letters which immediately follow are placed (in small) ; the extent of the whole being thus compressed in a surprising degree, at the same time that the height of the inscription remains very considerable, and is therefore more visible at a distance, however difficult a task it may prove, on closer inspection, to decipher it.

Other instances of this species of writing are the epitaph on William Deincourt, in Lincoln Cathedral, about the year 1100 (engraved in Dugdale's "Baronage," Hearne's "Trivetius," Gough's "Monuments," vol. ii., plate xiv., Pegge's "Sylloge of Inscriptions," plate iv.) ; that of Bishop Roger, at Salisbury Cathedral, 1139 (engraved in "Archæologia," vol. ii., plate xiii., Gough's "Monuments," vol. i., plate iv., Gough's "Camden," vol. i., plate xi.) ; and

that on Archbishop Theobald, at Canterbury, 1161 (in "Archæologia," vol. xiv., plate x.); and the dedication stones of Tewkesbury and Postling (in Pegge's "Sylloge of Inscriptions," plates i. and iii.); but none of these are so much compressed as the epitaph before us; and the only inscription which in this respect approaches it is that on the dedication stone of St. George's, Southwark, engraved in "Archæologia," vol. ii., plate xiii., Gough's "Monuments," vol. i., plate iv., and Pegge's "Sylloge," p. 56. The epitaph at Magdeburg, in Germany, of Edith, an Anglo-Saxon princess (though supposed to be not quite so ancient as her time), is also engraved in this style; see the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1830, part i., 195. In the epitaph of the Conqueror's Queen, at Caen, engraved in the introduction to Stothard's "Monumental Effigies," p. 3, the contrivance of inserting some letters in small is partially adopted, but only to a very moderate extent.

The length of the present inscription is 4 feet 9 inches, the height of the first stroke of the letter H is 6 inches, that of the last letter D $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. When read at length, it forms these two Leonine hexameters:

"Hic jacet Ilbertus de Chaz bonitate refertus,
Qui cum Brotona dedit hic plurima dona."

The monks themselves appear to have felt that this puzzling involution of the letters was here carried to too great an extreme; and in consequence they had the inscription repeated, at length, though in a much smaller size, round the margin of the stone. With respect to this smaller inscription, it is worthy of observation that its antiquity is probably but little removed from that of the larger one: from fifty to a hundred years is perhaps all the difference. The letters are all squarer; and the *e* and *c* are closed, the former taking a round back, as is usual in what are termed Lombardic characters; but it is very remarkable that, in one part (near the centre of the inscription, when the carver may have been doubtful of his space) the contractions of the original are retained much as before—in the words "refertus, qui cum——" The name of the party is in the smaller inscription spelt "Chat," though in the larger the final letter is clearly different, and may be safely read as *z*, which orthography is supported by some charters which will be quoted presently.

This curious gravestone was brought to light at Monkton Farley in Wiltshire, in the year 1744, after having been buried for two centuries; a rabbit-warren having been formed over the site of the priory church! On the ground being levelled, in the year mentioned, the pavement of the chancel appeared nearly complete, and several gravestones and skeletons were disclosed. Two of the former were adorned with sculpture, one of them representing a prior named Lawrence, and the other a man's bust and a lion, which, from its

situation near the altar, was attributed to the founder. These, it is feared, were destroyed, for when Mr. Gough made inquiry respecting this inscription of Ilbert de Chaz in the year 1772, he was told "it had lately been broken to pieces to mend the roads!" Such was probably the fate of the other sepulchral memorials; but the unique monument before us had fortunately been removed from the power of the destroyers, having been transferred by Lord Webb Seymour, the owner of Farley, to the congenial shades of Lacock Abbey, where it is now carefully preserved, but little injured by time or its long interment.

The researches of Mr. Stapleton into the records of Normandy have developed the origin and history of Ilbert de Chaz. Cats (as it is now written), the place from which he derived his name, is a parish in the arrondissement of St. Lo, and canton of Carentan. St. George's and St. André de Bohon are parishes in the same canton. The following charter is from the cartulary of the neighbouring Abbey of Montbourg:

"Notum sit omnibus presentibus et futuris quod ego Ilbertus de Caz do et concedo in perpetuam elemosinam abbacie s'c'e Marie Montisburgi, ecclesiam de Caz, cum omnibus ad eam pertinentibus, libere et quiete, pro salute anime mee et omnium antecessorum meorum, concedentibus domino meo Unfrido de Bohun, et nepotibus meis Willemo de Greinville et Bartholomeo le Bigot, et ut firma sit imperpetuum hæc donatio signo dominice crucis hanc chartam confirmo et munio coram subscriptis testibus, Ilberto + Unfrido de Bohun, Bartholomeo le Bigot, et multis aliis" (fol. 104).

Having accompanied the Bohuns to England, Ilbert was enfeoffed by them in Wiltshire; and the following extracts from the confirmation charter to Farley priory of Humfrey and Margaret de Bohun, to which Ilbertus de Chaz is himself the first witness, set forth his "plurima dona," and prove the justice with which that phrase was employed in the epitaph:

"Præterea concedimus eis et confirmamus Broctonam, quam Ilbertus de Chaz eis dedit, solutam et quietam ab omni servitio ad nos pertinente. . . . Et decimam de Cluttona cum uno homine sex solidos reddente in eadem villa, ex dono Ilberti de Chaz, et ecclesiam de Ferenberga post mortem Haraldi presbyteri, et ecclesiam de Cluttona, ex donatione prædicti Ilberti, et ex dono ipsius decem solidatas terræ de Hethesingtona (vel Hethelhamtune)."

This charter not only fully exhibits the many gifts of Ilbert de Chaz, but it fixes his era as a contemporary of Humfrey de Bohun, the Sewer of King Henry I., who died in 1185, thus showing the date of this very ancient and curious monument.

The "Broctona" mentioned in the epitaph is Broughton in Wiltshire, near Melksham, and the manor there given by Ilbert de Chaz received the same name of Monkton, which was applied to

Farley itself. In 1526, as appears from a roll in the Augmentation Office, the priory received from the manor of Monketon, in Broughton, a yearly income of £13 10s. 8d., from Clutton 4s., from Farmburgh 12s. 8d., and from Hichilhamton 8s., so that they had good reason to preserve the memory of this liberal benefactor.

J. G. N.

Littlecote.

[1823, *Part II.*, pp. 212-215.]

The chapelry of Littlecote is situated in the Hundred of Ramsbury, in the diocese of Sarum and archdeaconry of Wilts. It is about two miles west by north from Hungerford, in the county of Berks, and is a chapelry to the parish of Chilton Foliat.*

Littlecote is embedded in a deep valley in the midst of a park, cut into ridings after the fashion of the sixteenth century, surrounded by large and dreary fish-ponds, and shadowed by gloomy groves; this romantic mansion, nearly coeval with the oldest of its neighbouring oaks, seems peculiarly adapted to inspire sentiments of terror.

From the Domesday Book we learn that the manor of Littlecote was held of Milo Crispin by Turchetil, and that Godric held it in the time of King Edward, and it was assessed at one hide and a yardland. There was half a ploughland with one borderer, and four acres of meadow, four acres of pasture, and four acres of thorns, and worth 10s.

It afterwards became the property of the Darels, or Dorrels,† in which family it continued through a long line of succession till the time of Elizabeth, when, as appears by the following traditional evidence, it became the property of the Pophams, in whose family it still remains.

Early in the reign of Elizabeth a midwife in the town of Newbury, in Berks, was called from her bed by a horseman, who, speaking to her at her window, earnestly pressed her to accompany him to a lady who wanted her assistance. A certain mysterious manner accompanied every word spoken by the stranger. He refused to disclose the lady's name or the place of her abode, and the good woman observed by the faint light of the moon that he was masked. She resolved to refuse, on his proposing that she should be blindfolded till they should arrive at the place from whence he came; but a purse of gold handed upon the point of the horseman's rod just as she was shutting her casement, and the promise of one yet more valuable, induced her to alter that determination. She dressed herself hastily, submitted to be hoodwinked, and placed herself trembling on a pillion behind her unknown guide. After travelling in a dead silence for about three hours through deep and watery lanes, a sudden halt

* Carlisle's "Topog. Dict."—Eccl. Direct.

† Camden does not mention Littlecote as ever having been in the possession of the Darels, but only as a good seat of Sir John Popham's. Gough, in his "Additions," mentions it.

announced the end of their journey. The good woman was now lifted from her horse ; her conductor softly unlocked a door, and led her, still blindfolded, into a house, and through a suite of apartments so spacious and so numerous as to impress her mind with a high idea of the grandeur of the owner. At last her companion stopped her, and knocked gently at a door, which was presently opened to admit them, and as hastily locked as soon as they had entered. The covering was now taken from her eyes, when she found herself in a plainly-furnished chamber, in which was another gentleman, also masked, and a lady sitting on a bed. After a silence of some minutes, the gentleman informed her in a low whisper that the lady she saw was the person who had need of her professional assistance, and that when the child was born she was to bring it to him in an adjoining closet, to which he retired. The door was behind the tapestry.

The child, a female infant, was not long after, according to order, conveyed to the gentleman, who now led her through a long passage to a small room, which seemed unconnected with the house by any other communication, and in which was a prodigious pile of dry wood in the chimney blazing with great fury. She was now informed that the child must be thrown into the fire, first stopping its mouth with a cloth, which he presented to her for that purpose. The woman naturally refused, but her companion, seizing her throat, drew a dagger, and vowing to put her instantly to death, she at last consented. Gaggling the infant, she attempted to save it by suffocation from pain yet more terrible ; but such was the eagerness of the barbarous employer that she was forced to lay it yet alive on the fire, when its agony gave it strength to spring out on the floor.* It was thrown in again, and consumed to ashes. When this deed was done she was conducted to her house in the same manner as she had come from it, and the promised purse was thrown into her cottage after her. The tradition then goes on to relate the usual horrors upon the acquisition of guilty treasure, and concludes that she determined to expiate her crime by bringing the instigator to justice. In the hopes of discovering the house, she traversed every part of the neighbourhood within the distance she supposed she had been conducted, and contrived under various pretences (but the tradition does not inform us what pretences they were) to examine most of the large mansions which fell in her way. At length, when she was on the point of relinquishing her search, she found at Littlecote a chamber and closet which she could scarcely doubt was the same in which the murder had been committed, but in her pocket she had a most positive clue. During the short attendance on the parturient lady she had the presence of mind to cut out of one of the bed-curtains a small piece

* Deep marks of burning, occasioned by the child's jumping out of the fire, are pretended to be exhibited in the floor of the closet. It is needless to remark on the impossibility of this story.

of cloth, which, upon comparing with a hole in the curtain of the room where she was, was found to tally.* She related the whole to a magistrate. Mr. Dorrell† was apprehended and tried on her evidence, but acquitted. It is said that he owed his escape to the eloquence of Sir John Popham, and that in gratitude for such service he bequeathed him this estate.‡

Thus far tradition; but now for facts. It is certain that in the latter end of Elizabeth the estate was in the possession of Sir John Popham, as I shall subsequently show.

This Sir John Popham was born at Huntworth, co. Somerset, in 1531, was some time student at Balliol College, Oxford, and was as stout and skilful a man at sword and buckler as any in that age, and wild enough in his recreations.§ He was made serjeant-at-law about 1570, Solicitor-General in 1579, Attorney-General in 1581, and treasurer of the Middle Temple. In 1592 he was promoted to the rank of Chief Justice of the King's Bench (not Common Pleas, as has been asserted). In 1600 he was sent by the Queen with some others to the Earl of Essex, to learn the cause of so many military men assembling at his house. He was detained by the soldiers therein, which was considered as tantamount to an imprisonment. To this detention Sir John deposed upon his oath at the Earl's trial.||

Mr. Chamberlain, in his "Letters to Sir Dudley Carleton"¶ in 1601, says: "On the 13th of August the Queen came to Windsor, and is expected shortly at Mr. Comptroller's** at Causham. And so the Progresses should hold on as far as Littlecot, a house of the Lord

* The curtains were of broad blue cloth, fringed with yellow, and are still shown, together with the piece of cloth which the woman cut out, now sewed in its place.

† In Nichol's "History of Leicestershire," vol. iii., part ii., p. 627 seq., is an account of one Mr. John Darrell, or Dorrell, famous about the time of the above occurrence for casting out devils, who was tried by a Special Commission, issued under the authority of the Archbishop of York, which was afterwards removed into the High Commission Court, by whose sentence he was degraded from the Ministry, and committed to close prison in York Castle. Whether this was one of the above family, I have not been able to learn.

‡ "General Chronicle," vol. i., pp. 226-228.

§ Fuller's "Worthies," vol. ii., p. 284; and Chalmers's "Biog. Dict."

|| *Ibid.*, on the authority of Camden's "Elizabeth," anno 1600.

¶ An eminent statesman, born near Watlington, Oxon, March 10, 1573, knighted in 1610, created Viscount Dorchester by King Charles, on his arrival from his embassy to Holland in 1628; died February 15, 1631-32, in his fifty-ninth year, and was buried at Westminster Abbey. Having no heirs, the title became extinct.

** Sir William Knollys, Knight, son of Sir Francis Knollys, K.B., who had been Treasurer of the Household, was Comptroller of the Household in 1579. He was employed by the Queen in 1592 to negotiate between the King of Spain and the Low Countries. In 1601 he was made Treasurer of the Household, and in 1603 created Baron Knollys by King James, whose Queen he entertained at Causham on her way to Bath, 1613. He was made Master of the Wards in 1614, and about the same time elected K.G. He was made Viscount Wallingford in 1616, Earl of Bunbury in 1622, and died in 1631.

Chief Justice in Wiltshire. But there be so many endeavours to hinder it, that I will lay no great wager of the proceeding."*

Sir John Popham was a very severe judge. He even counselled King James not to grant so many pardons to malefactors as he was used to do, but his severity did great benefit to his country even after his death.† He died in 1607, aged 76, and was buried at Wellington, where he had erected a noble mansion.

Littlecote, though of no great importance in the present day, must have been a place of some consequence in the time of the Romans, for by the following particulars of a tessellated pavement found here, it appears to have been possessed of a temple.

In the park in 1730, then in the possession of Edward Popham, Esq., was found by his steward, Mr. William George, 2 feet underground, a Roman pavement 41 feet by 28 feet, and seemed to have formed the floor of a temple. It consisted of two parts, the templum and sacrarium, answering to the nave and chancel of our churches. The outer part, which was nearly square, had at bottom a border, on the centre of which was a large two-handled cup, supported by two sea-monsters with fishes' tails, and behind them two dolphins. At the other end was also a border, with a similar cup supported by two tigers. The floor of the sacrarium was a square, enclosing a circle, and having semicircles of various rich patterns at three of its sides. In the centre was Apollo playing on his harp, and in four surrounding compartments four female figures representing the four seasons, mounted on four beasts; the first, holding a flower in her hand, and seated on a deer, might represent Spring; the second, on a panther, and holding a swan, Summer; the third, resting on a branch, perhaps of a vine, rode on a bull, Autumn; and the fourth, on a goat, held nothing in her hand, and represented Winter. The two first figures were naked to the waist, the two last clothed.

Such is Professor Ward's account of this curious pavement, one of the largest ever found in England, but in 1733 unhappily destroyed. Mr. George, above-mentioned, made an exact drawing of it in all its parts in their proper colours, whence his widow afterwards worked a beautiful carpet, reduced to the size of 1 inch to a foot of the original, and from whence it was engraved by Mr. Vertue, at the expense of the Society of Antiquaries.‡

Among some of the late superstitious tales respecting this place are the following: In the dusk of the evening some of the country people have frequently seen in the avenue leading to the house a coach furiously drawn by six horses, in which was a gentleman and lady richly dressed, the latter having on her lap a child of angelic beauty, but the lady and gentleman were headless!

An honest husbandman of Hungerford reported that he, with

* Nichols's "Eliz. Prog.," new edit., vol. iil., p. 565.

† Fuller's "Worthies," vol. ii., p. 284. ‡ Gough's "Camden," vol. i., p. 163.

others in his company, returning to Littlecote on a winter's evening with a load of bricks in a waggon, the waggon stuck in a slough in a deep road under the park pales so fast that they determined, after many useless efforts, to go to the stables for more horses. Having entered the park, and winding towards the house, they beheld among the trees opposite to the place where the waggon was fixed a child surrounded by a radiant light, in the attitude of beckoning towards the road, when lo! the loaded waggon rose slowly over the fence and gently alighted on the smooth turf on the inner side, from whence, when the next morning's sunrise had encouraged them to approach the spot, it was drawn home without difficulty.

Longleat.

[1826, *Part II.*, pp. 406-408.]

Longleat House, the seat of the Marquis of Bath, is situate about four miles west of Warminster in Wiltshire. After proceeding more than two miles through the extensive grounds of this noble domain the house is seen, at a sudden turning of the road, in the valley below. This ancient and magnificent mansion stands in the midst of a fine, well-wooded park, encircled with belts of plantations extending about twelve miles in circumference. A considerable branch of the river Frome running through the grounds and discharging itself in a cascade close to the gardens forms a conspicuous feature of the landscape, and adds greatly to the beauty and variety of the scenery. For size and number of apartments this seat probably equals any house in England. It is said to have been the first well-built house in the kingdom. It was begun in 1567 by Sir John Thynne, on the site of the dissolved priory, purchased by him of Sir John Horsey in the 32 Henry VIII., and occupied twelve years in building.

The exterior of the mansion* is remarkably grand and imposing, being no less than 220 feet in front, and 120 feet in depth, and the height proportionate to these dimensions. The effect is improved by colossal figures of warriors, standing in various attitudes on the balustrades of the whole front and sides of the edifice, similar to those on the summit of the gateway of Alnwick Castle, the seat of the Duke of Northumberland. The innumerable windows in every direction contribute greatly to the light and airy appearance of the mansion. The entrance is by a magnificent flight of stone steps, and over the doorway is placed the family coronet.

The interior is no less elegant and spacious, containing nearly 170 rooms, all decorated with various degrees of splendour. The entrance leads into a lofty hall,* decorated with panels and antique

* The exterior of the mansion and interior of the hall are well engraved in Sir R. C. Hoare's '*Heytesbury Hundred*,' p. 70, from drawings by J. Buckler, F.S.A.—Ed.

sofas of highly-polished oak, and a roof of the same materials with projecting arches, resembling that of Westminster Hall. On the walls are pictures of the size of life, representing some of the ancestors of the family dressed in the hunting costume of the last century with their horses and hounds, and suspended round the hall are the immense antlers of various species of the stag. At the upper end is a large music gallery, ornamented with the crests and quarterings of the house of Bath. The finest rooms are the dining-room, drawing-room, and library, all of which are furnished in the most costly style, and filled with valuable foreign cabinets and tables of tortoiseshell inlaid with brass. The walls of the drawing-room are entirely covered with rich damask, and the other furniture is enriched with corresponding materials. This suite of apartments, and most of the other rooms, and also the galleries extending round the house, are adorned with pictures by some of the most eminent masters: Rubens, Vandyck, Janssen, Snyders, Mytens, Zuccherò, Sir Peter Lely, Sir Godfrey Kneller, Sir Joshua Reynolds, etc. They consist chiefly of portraits of the ancestors of the present family, and several of the nobility who became connected with it by intermarriages, especially of Sir John Thynne, the founder of Longleat House (painted in 1580*); of Thomas Thynne, Esq. (who was assassinated in his carriage at Pall Mall, and to whose memory a monument is erected in Westminster Abbey); and of Lords Weymouth and Thynne, the Duke of Somerset, and Lord Coventry. But this collection is more particularly valuable for the portraits of many celebrated historical personages who flourished in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Amongst the most conspicuous are the portraits of Henry VIII.; of Charles I. and his Queen, Henrietta Maria of France, and their infant family (Prince Charles, James, Duke of York, and the Princess Elizabeth) by Vandyke; another likeness of Charles I. by a different artist; Charles II. (when King); James II.; Mary, Queen of Scots; Lord Seymour, of Sudley, Lord High Admiral of England† (who was beheaded for a conspiracy against his brother, the Protector Somerset, in the reign of Edward VI.); of Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and Devereux, Earl of Essex (the two favourites of Queen Elizabeth); of Lord Bacon; Sir Walter Raleigh; Martin Luther; Pope Boniface; Sir Thomas Gresham; Lord Arlington (one of the celebrated cabal in the reign of Charles II.); the Prince of Condé; Cardinal Richelieu; Count Tiołke, a Polish nobleman (a remarkably fine painting), etc.

Among other pictures of ancient date is a portrait of the celebrated Jane Shore, which has been much and deservedly admired, not only as an antique and rare specimen of art, but for the correctness and

* Engraved by Worthington in Sir R. C. Hoare's "*Heytesbury Hundred*," p. 64.—Ed.

† Of this portrait, see *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. xciv., part i., p. 40.—Ed.

truth of its design and colouring. In one of the apartments adjoining the drawing-room are portraits of the late Marquis of Bath, and Lord Chancellor Thurlow, in the most finished style of Sir Joshua Reynolds. There are but few paintings on historical subjects, and scarcely any productions of the Italian and Flemish schools. On the grand staircase, however, are two spirited hunting pieces by Snyders, and a lion hunt said to have been sketched by Rubens. In the long room is another capital performance of Snyders representing two falcons in the act of destroying a heron. The few remaining pictures deserving notice are the Battle of Amazons, by a French painter; the Holy Family, by a pupil of Rubens; and six views of Venice, by a Venetian artist. The library contains a costly assemblage of books in various languages, and is arranged and classified with peculiar taste and elegance. In this apartment are several old portraits of ancient British monarchs.

On the right side of the mansion is a small but handsome chapel for the accommodation of the Marquis of Bath and his family, with seats below for the household and strangers who occasionally attend the service. The altar is extremely rich, and above is a painting apparently in imitation of bas-relief. The windows are formed of beautifully-stained glass representing various events in the history of our Saviour. This chapel is an unique specimen of taste and judgment, both in the design and the execution.

Behind and on the left of the house is an extensive garden laid out with great skill, and filled with choice exotics. In the centre is a sparkling fountain playing into a larger basin, and at the extremity are hot and green-houses, a spacious orangery, etc. On the right wing are the stables and offices, built in a quadrangular form. These are of comparatively modern erection on the site of the old stables, which seem (from an old painting) to have been of a very inferior description, and by no means in character with the noble appearance and architectural magnificence of the mansion itself. Under the orangery is an archway through which the river Frome runs after having formed a small lake in this part of the grounds. The park is well stocked with deer, and amongst the innumerable trees which ornament it are a profusion of oaks of immense size and foliage, and some of the largest Scotch spruce and silver firs in England. In front of the mansion roads diverge in different directions towards Warminster, Frome, Horningsdean, etc. "In fact, the whole scene exhibits a beautiful variety of country, rich natural landscapes, heightened by the judicious exertions of art in fine, well-disposed plantations. All is on the great scale, and everything around recalls the remembrance of ancient English magnificence."

This splendid mansion was honoured by a visit from his late majesty George III., who was entertained by his noble host for several days with princely grandeur and hospitality.

Maiden Bradley.[1816, *Part I.*, p. 393.]

Maiden Bradley is a long, straggling, but extremely neat village, situate on the road between Stourhead and Longleat, about four miles from the former mansion. It is a place of considerable antiquity. A nunnery was founded here by Hemasser Bisset in the reign of Henry II. The peculiar objects of this institution was the maintenance of leprous women: but to them were added some Secular brothers, whose duty it was to provide necessaries and manage their estates for them. Hubert, the last Bishop of Sarum, about 1190, removed these priests, and substituted a prior and canons of the Augustine Order. At the dissolution of this hospital the annual revenues amounted, according to Dugdale, to £180 10s. 8d., and Speed £197 18s. 8d. Henry VIII. granted the site and the buildings to Edward Seymour, Viscount Beauchamp, and the property has continued in the same family to the present time. Part of the monastic buildings have been converted into a farmhouse.

The church is a small edifice, consisting of a body and two aisles, and a square tower at the west end. The chief entrance is by a porch on the south side. The building, both externally and internally, is perfectly plain, the windows are a mixture of pointed and square, but not of very ancient date; and there is nothing to claim particular remark except the monuments, the principal of which is one to the memory of Sir Edward Seymour, well-executed in marble, A.D. 1750; and the celebrity of the person whom it commemorates, renders it worthy of distinction. The figure is in a reclining position, habited in the robes of a senator. On the pediment are two winged cherubs, one holding a torch, the other a serpent—emblems of death and eternity. The monument was raised in 1750 by the Baronet's grandson, and contains the following inscription:

“Under this marble are deposited the remains of Sir Edward Seymour, Bart., late of Bury Pomroy, in the county of Devon and of this place. A man of such endowments as added lustre to his whole ancestry, commanded reverence from his contemporaries, and stands the fairest patron to posterity, being often called to Council, and always chosen in Parliament . . . Born in the year 1633 . . . he died in the year 1707. Francis Seymour, Esq., in just veneration for the memory of his illustrious grandfather, and in due obedience to the last will and Testament of Lieut.-Gen. William Seymour, second son to the deceased Sir Edward, hath caused this monument to be erected, 1750.”

A short distance east of the church is Bradley House, the residence of the Duke of Somerset. As an architectural object, this mansion is of no importance, but the size renders it convenient. The south part and principal front has a square wing at each extremity, which projects considerably before the centre; the rooms are handsome, lighted by large windows. The grounds belonging to it, though not

extensive, are very pleasant, at the southern extremity of which is a lofty chalk hill.

AN OBSERVER.

Malmesbury.

[1788, *Part I.*, pp. 511, 512.]

BRIEF FOR THE REPAIRING OF MALMESBURY CHURCH.

"Mar. 1, 1788. Whereas it hath been represented unto us that the abbey or parochial church of St. Paul, in Malmesbury, is a very beautiful, large, and ancient fabric, being built about 1,100 years since, and covers 60 perches of ground, and is adorned in various parts of it with curious work of different orders; that the church, at the dissolution of monasteries, in order to preserve so venerable a structure, was purchased by the aldermen of the said borough, and, notwithstanding the parishioners have, from time to time, expended several large sums of money in support of the said fabric, yet the same is now become very ruinous through length of time, particularly the south walls are greatly decayed and bulged, and several of the arches, together with the roof, are become very rotten, and in great danger of falling into the church; the north walls are also shattered with many cracks and flaws, and not without danger even in the foundation, and several pinnacles are already fallen in; that the parishioners have, by a former collection by virtue of his Majesty's letters patent, collected the sum of £470 15s. 11d., which sum is vested in the three per cent. Consolidated Annuities, until they have authority to collect a further sum for the repair of the said church; which, by the oath of James Darley, an able and experienced architect, who has viewed the church, and estimated the charge of taking down a part, and repairing the same, will amount to £2,441 4s., exclusive of the foresaid sum and the old materials.—A brief to collect from house to house. Trustees: Sir James Tilney Long, Bart., Thomas Estcourt Creswell, Charles Wesly Coxe, Thomas Estcourt, Esq., Rev. Thomas Pollock, LL.D., Edm. Wilkins, Esq., high steward, the aldermen and capital burgesses; the minister and churchwardens for the time being, William Stevenson and William Hilditch, Gents. Feb. 26, 28 Geo. III."

[1814, *Part I.*, p. 329.]

In the annexed plate are "Some of the principal ornaments of Malmesbury Abbey, 675," brought forward to convince by their strong affinity to the Roman style, that such sculptures, and the architectural lines whereon they are displayed, are of the original Saxon foundations, as per date: A. remains of west entrance (continual of columns downwards dispensed with in this plate); B. part of the arched recesses on west front; C. patera on south front; D. columns and rounds, string on west and south fronts; E. string

on west and south fronts; F. dragon's head to sweeping cornice of south porch; G. architrave to an arch, north front; H. architrave to second doorway internally of south porch; I. J. K. L. M., parts of architrave to first doorway internally of north porch; one of the effigies (St. Peter) in the basso-relievos in north porch.

J. C.

[1824, *Part II.*, pp. 305, 306.]

The drawing accompanying this communication (see Plate II., Fig. 1) represents a doorway in the abbey at Malmesbury. It is in the screen that divides the nave from what remains of the transept, and was discovered at the time the late reparations were being carried into execution in that venerable fabric. Fig. 2 is the architrave, and Fig. 3 the cornice. This screen, as all those who are acquainted with the abbey know, now supplies the place of an altarpiece, and does not separate the transept from the choir, but divides the nave from what once was the transept. The lofty arch leading from the nave into the transept is now walled up, and it is against this lofty blank wall that the screen is situated. I am not enough of an antiquary to speak positively upon the subject, but I believe the place occupied by this screen was that usually appropriated to the rood-loft; whether there was a screen in this situation when the abbey was entire of course cannot be ascertained; if there was, it must either have been destroyed or removed, and the present one erected in its stead. The form of the arch, I believe, denotes it to have been of the time of the Tudors; added to this, the cornice is decorated with the heraldic bearings of the house of Lancaster, as the portcullis, the united roses, etc., all which evidently show that the work was posterior to the union of the two houses by Henry VII.'s marriage with the heiress of the house of York. Immediately over the doorway, in the centre of the screen and in the cornice, are the royal arms, with the lion and a wivern, a dragon as supporter. From a note in Rapin, it appears that the gold coin of Henry VIII. had the royal arms with these supporters on the reverse; it should hence appear that this screen was erected in that monarch's reign. Leland, who travelled in his reign, says that the great tower or spire over the transept was gone, and had fallen down *in memoriâ hominum*, an expression that would lead one to suppose that the destruction of the tower was not very recent, and had probably taken place before the reign of Henry VIII. It is not, however, easy to conceive what could have induced the erection of this screen in its present situation if the tower had then fallen, as it could have answered no purpose whatever, unless they had begun to restore the abbey previous to the Dissolution, and perhaps this screen was one of their first efforts for that purpose; but all is conjecture. No subject has, however, more engaged the attention of antiquaries than the different periods at

which the abbey was erected ; this is more particularly the case with the beautiful south porch, which has been universally and enthusiastically admired. Nothing certainly can exceed its elegance. Mr. King, in his "*Munimenta Antiqua*," attributes it to Aldelhm ; but it must be obvious to everyone that such a work as this could only be the production of persons possessing much greater skill than we can suppose our Saxon ancestors of the seventh century to have been possessed of. No doubt the south porch is an imitation and improvement of the Saxon style ; and I think there is every reason to believe that this southern porch, as well as the grand western entrance, were both erected in the twelfth century. There is a fragment only of the western entrance remaining, but both porches appear to have been of the same era, and extremely similar. The ornamental parts of both consist of sculptures of scriptural subjects ; and what is remarkable, they both appear to have been erected after the completion of the abbey. The great south porch completely conceals one of the windows of the south aisle of the abbey and partly hides another ; and at the western entrance it appears that the work was completed subsequently to the original building, as the lines or courses of masonry in the work of the pillars and archwork above do not run in line or correspond with the courses in the masonry on the sides of the entrance ; and this circumstance is also to be observed in the framing (I know not the technical expression or term) of what remains of the great western window, as well as in many other instances in different parts of the abbey. Hence it must be extremely difficult for anyone to say when the abbey was erected, such liberties having been taken with the original structure. There is an engraving of the fragment remaining of the great western entrance in Mr. Britton's "*Architectural Antiquities*,"* from a drawing by Mr. Carter ; but Mr. Britton's is the most correct. On the capital of one of the remaining pillars, as represented in Mr. Britton's plate, may be discerned something like a Sagittarius ; on the pillar, however, it is very visible, distinct, and well preserved.

Mr. Moffatt, in his "*History of Malmesbury*," p. 66, says : "There is a relic of the circular arch of the grand western entrance. The pillars are round and plain from the base to the capital, and here commences elegant sculpture. It has a few bas-reliefs remaining in good preservation. One of the figures, a Sagittary, has been particularly admired by the antiquary." Now, as the Sagittarius was an armorial bearing of King Stephen (my authority is Wright's edition of Heylin's "*Help to English History*"), is it not extremely probable that both these porches were erected in that monarch's reign, and that by the potent and wealthy Bishop Roger, of Salisbury ? He is known to have been much at Malmesbury ; he was the wealthiest subject in England, and, of course, the most capable of executing

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1803, part ii., p. 322.

such elegant and costly works. Previous to their disputes, he was the great favourite of Stephen, and a principal instrument in the election of that monarch to the English throne. It is, therefore, I submit, extremely likely that it was this bishop who erected these porches, and ornamented them with the heraldic insignia of his patron and sovereign.

What I have said I think is confirmed by Mr. Moffat, who in his "History," p. 25, says: "Previous to the accession of Stephen to the throne, Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, an ambitious prelate, had taken to himself the custody of Malmesbury Abbey. Whilst it was in his hands he fortified the town with walls and a castle"; and adds, "that Camden informs us that he erected both in this place and at Salisbury structures for cost very chargeable, and for show very beautiful. The stones were set in such exact order that the joints could not be seen." I think this observation of Camden must refer to the erection of the porches, and, with what I have stated, in a great measure decides the question as to the period when the elegant porch of our venerable abbey was erected.

B. C. T.

[1830, *Part I.*, pp. 503, 504.]

The following Petition, complaining of the neglect, mismanagement, and oppression, of the Parliamentary garrison at Malmesbury, is from a draft on vellum, without signatures, which has been preserved by the singular accident of its having been made the cover of a ciphering book.* Malmesbury was surrendered by the Royalists March 27, 1643; and it was probably during that year that this Petition was framed. As a picture of the iron sway of the stern Republicans, even to a community of their own party, and of the miseries attendant on civil war and military government under all circumstances, as well as an interesting record connected with local history, I think it not unworthy of insertion in your miscellany.

To the Right hon^{able} the Com^{tee} of both Kingdomes.

The humble Petition of certaine freeholders and other sufficient inhabitants of the County of Wiltes, dwellinge neere vnto the Garrison of Malmesbury.

Humbly sheweth,

That since the Garrison of Malmesburie was reduced vnto the obedience of the Parliam^t, the same hath not onely beene maintained,

* Belonging to Edward Ady in 1681. As this book has remained in the possession of an inhabitant of Seagry, where the family of Ady or Adye lived (in the chancel of Seagry Church is a tomb to the memory of Edward Adye, who died in 1663; at the side of the church a tablet to the memory of William Adye, 1747, Edward Adye, 1765, and others of the family), it is probable that the Edward Ady of 1681 was at school at Malmesbury, four miles distant, and that the schoolmaster, whoever he was, may have placed this parchment cover on the book. The same individual is in possession of some fine specimens of penmanship, written for "Edward Adye" by William Crowch, apparently of the period above mentioned (1681) or an older date.

espetiallie by the contribuc'on of your petic'oners, and the places neere adjoyninge, but also your petic'oners have ordinarily given free quarter to the forces of the said Garrison, and their plowes* have been prest at all seasons both to carry stone and tymber and other materials for the fortificac'ons, and to carry hay, wood, and coles, for other vses in the said Garrison, wthout any paym^t for the same; And moreouer divers considerable debts are contracted by certaine well affected Gent. of the Countie (as your petic'oners are informed) for the buyinge of ammunicon and other necessities, and for raysinge of horse and armes for the defence of the countrie (w^{ch} debts your petic'oners hold themselves bounden in duty to discharge accordinge to their propor'ion wth other parts of the Countie). And whereas your petic'oners hoped (as the fruits of these great expenses) to have beene p^tected in some measure from violence and rapine, yet the enemy hath alwaies compelled the countrie to paie contribuc'on and other taxes, and alsoe hath continually plundered and spoyled yo^r petic'oners, and the inhabitants of places nearest adjacent to the said Garrison, wthout any opposic'on of the said forces, all w^{ch} hath happened through the insufficiency, timidity, and falshood of the chiefe Com'anders and certaine other Officers of the said Garrison, who have not onely notoriously deceived y^e State by fillinge vp their musters wth hired men, but alsoe have rather applyed themselves to excessive drinckinge, p^phane swearing, and vicious and riotous livinge, than to exercise the duty of their places. And their counsells haue alwaies been soe publiq that noe designe of theirs have ever been followed wth good successe, but those p^visions w^{ch} have beene made for our defence have beene alwaies turned to the advantadge of the enemy, and the forces and armes (espetiallie of horse) raysed to p^tect vs, have beene soe remissly governed, that y^e enemy hath alwaies surprised them, and by . . . been enabled to ruine vs. And yet these calamities haue beene increased by sundrie most grievous insolencies and oppressions acted by the authoritie of the said Garrison both upon the p^sons and estates of divers inhabitants of the countrie, as by imprisonm^t, vnjust exactions of money, hay, and other p^visions, seasinge of horses, vnder pretence of recruitinge the horse forces lost by negligence of the commanders, and other grievances. And lastly, the familiaritie and favours w^{ch} malignants have in the said garrison doe begett a vehem^t suspic'on in your petic'oners, that the said Com'anders and Officers, or some of them, may finde an opportunity to deliver the same vp vnto y^e enemy wthout any such resistance as might bee made in defence of a place soe stronge and considerable.

In due considerac'on of the premisses may it please this Right honorable Com^{tee} to graunte vnto your petic'oners that the govern^{mt} of

* Probably their teams.

the said Garrison and forces may bee reduced into some better forme, and that y^e said Com'anders and Officers may be removed, and that other able Com'anders and Officers, such in whom your petic'oners may have confidence, may bee placed to com'and and govern the said garrison and forces, and that a Receivo^r may be appointed for y^e said Garrison, who shall bee tyed to give a moonethly accompt for the satisfac'on of the countrie, by w^h means corrupc'on may bee the more avoyded, and the debts of the Countie the sooner satisfied. And that those Gent. and others (many of w^h are either malignants or neuters) who formerly found trained horses, may bee compelled to find horse and armes for y^e recruite of the horse forces of this Countie. And yo^r petic'oners in acceptance of this favoure shall cheerfully contribute to y^e maintenance of the said Garrison and forces, and shall alsoe enter into any other considerac'on for defence of the said Garrison and partes adjoininge.

[1832, *Part I.*, pp. 405, 406.]

I have thought it not unfit to say something of the policy of that ancient Corporation of Malmesbury, which, by the justice and clemency and liberality of former kings, hath not only retained its ancient form of Government, but hath been enriched with great quantities of land, which are disposed amongst the freemen and guildeners by very just and prudent methods. The Borough of Malmesbury is situated in two parishes—that of Malmesbury proper, and that of Westport. But, although the franchise of the abbey is part of the parish of Malmesbury, the Borough extendeth not into it. The commoners and guildeners of Malmesbury are divided into six centuries, or hundreds, or tribes, and every commoner is reduced under one of these tribes, and enrolled in a large skin, under the name of a tribe or hundred, so that there are six columns of names, all which persons have right of common in the large portion of ground called King's Heath, given to them by charter in reward of faithful services done to King Athelstan, whose monument is yet extant in Malmesbury, by that magnanimous king, but wisely limited, so that every commoner hath an equal advantage by it. Now, the forty-eight names which by antiquity or seniority come to be next the names of the respective centuries or tribes are termed the "forty-eighths," and have an addition of land in a common field belonging to that Corporation as a Corporation. There is also a superior order of "twenty-fours," which are elected ever out of the forty-eight by the majority of the "twenty-fours," who do not always respect seniority, but the tribes of the persons. There is also another order, which consists of thirteen, who by the majority of the thirteen are ever elected out of the twenty-fours only, in which election seniority is also not always regarded. Three persons of this thirteen

are yearly presented to the commoners by the rest of the thirteen, who choose out of them an alderman for the ensuing year, which alderman is a justice of the peace for the Borough, and hath power to nominate a deputy, who is to act only when the alderman is out of the Borough. These thirteen have also large meadows or pastures, none less than £8 nor none worth more than £16 per annum to each one, but under penalties of waste, so that these grounds are not impaired, although they pass through many hands. Out of the profits of these lands the thirteens pay somewhat to a free school, and maintain their burgesses whilst at Parliament, whom also they choose only.

The number of persons in the parish of Malmesbury were some years since, by the Bishop's injunction to Mr. Cooke, the then vicar, returned to his lordship to be a very few under or over 2,000, of which four persons only frequented not the church, and of them there was no Papist, or, at least, that owned that persuasion; and, indeed, upon a diligent inquiry made about four years since there was found in North Wiltshire very few Papists—I think not above three women, and no one man, inhabiting there, although that part of the country contains the Devizes, Marlborough, Calne, Chippenham, Malmesbury, Wotton Bassett, Cricklade, and Bedwin, all borough towns, sending each two burgesses to Parliament, and several other considerable merchant towns, and about 150 for the more part populous parishes. Westport, perhaps, is not much behind Malmesbury parish, it containing Westport, part of the borough, Charleton (which hath church and vicarage endowed), and Beokenbury, and several farms and inhabited places; of these about 400 families are commoners of the borough; the other inhabitants are either not qualified or cannot be so.

[1837, *Part II.*, p. 572.]

As a native and an inhabitant of Malmesbury, I have always been proud of the venerable ruin that adorns the town. I never pass it, and that I do almost daily, without its exciting in my mind the highest admiration of its wonderful, I had almost said surpassing, sublimity and grandeur. Long has the western fragment been desecrated with everything that was vile and execrable: I am happy, however, now to say that the stables, hovels, pigstyes, etc., have been removed, and the interior of the western doorway is now seen in all its ruined grandeur. Cleared from the accumulated filth and rubbish of ages, the ground has been made level with what was once the original floor of the nave and side aisles. In accomplishing this, the workmen at the west end of the north aisle came upon part of an encaustic pavement. Among the fragments were two which formed portions of a circle, containing a black-letter inscription. On one of them are clearly the words *In te d'ne* (see the plate): the words on

the other are illegible; but on both tiles is a shield containing the letters R. A. interlaced, and at one corner the letter M.* There can be no doubt that the latter stands for the name of the abbey, and the former for Robertus Abbas, signifying Robert de Pershore, who was abbot from 1424 to 1434.

At the same place was found a tile with the arms of Despencer, similar to those in the plate, with the addition of three leaves at each of the lower corners underneath the shield.

The discovery of these relics reminded me of the fine remains of similar pavements which still exist in some lower apartments of the abbey house, now used as dairies; and I have accordingly had drawings made for you of some of the finest. I am glad of the present opportunity of doing this, as most of them are considerably worn, and, though the patterns remain, the white earth with which they were inlaid has generally been removed by their constantly repeated washings.

They are certainly some of the most elegant monastic pavements that have been preserved. The age of the lower portion, the tiles of which are $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches square, is probably not far different from that of those already described. The upper piece, consisting of nine tiles, each $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches square, is about fifty years earlier. The initials W. C., placed on either side the shield of the griffin, are those of Walter Camme, who was abbot from 1360 to 1396. B. C. T.

[1863, *Part I.*, pp. 47, 48.]

The following account of the abbey church of Malmesbury, by Antony à Wood, is extracted from a volume of the Oxford antiquary's MS. collections, now deposited in the Bodleian Library (No. 8,517 in Huddesford's Catalogue). We print it without comment, for the service of those who may not have access to the original.

Wood alludes to his visit to Malmesbury in one of his manuscript letters to John Aubrey, who, replying to his brother antiquary, says,

* The design of these tiles corresponds with that of a perfect pattern of four engraved in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1819, part ii., p. 577, from the church of Stone in Worcestershire. The text round this set, when rightly arranged (for they are not so in the engraving), reads as follows: *Adinna nos deus salutaris n'r te ppter gloriam no'is tui d'ne libera nos*. At the corners are the initials B and C; and within the circle are the four following shields: 1. A chevron between ten crosses patée—*Berkeley*; 2. A heart pierced with three nails, and in base seven goutts of blood, between two figures, perhaps intended for the hammer and pincers, emblems of our Lord's Passion; 3. On a chief two mullets—*St. John*; 4. A saltire between two mullets in chief and base points, and the letters r e in fess. Towards the discovery of the parties intended to be commemorated by these arms and initials, a reference to Nash's "Worcestershire" has supplied only the information that there was in the church of Stone a chantry, to which James Lord Berkeley presented as patron in 1435, and we may therefore be satisfied that the statement was correct that the tiles were in Stone Church.—ED.

"The stately remaines of y^e Abbey of Malmesbury cannot but affect w^h sadnes the mind of any ingeniose and good man."

"The 28 June, 1678. I went from Bathe to Malmsburie in Wiltshire, once famous for a rich and well endowed Abbey. The ruins of the Church wherof do shew y^t it hath been a verie statelie and proud fabrick. It is seated upon a little hill w^{ch} descends every way about it, and upon part of the descent stands the Towne, once verie famous for Cloathing, but now poore and ragged. Wⁿ I came within the churchyard I found the body of the said church onlie standing, and y^t scarce so, for if I am not mistaken part of its west end hath been pulled downe. As for the larg^{*} choire, and north and south cross Isles, with the most larg and statelie Tower in the middle, were as I conceive demolished at the dissolution, te^p. Hen. 8, and the bodie y^t remained was with much ado purchased of the K. by T. Stumps, a wealthe clothier of Malmburie, to y^e end y^t it might serve for a church for the parish.†

"The porch leading into y^e said bodie is the most statelie and costlie carved peice of work y^t my eyes ever beheld, carrying with it also a verie venerable face of antiquity. It is broad without side, and by degrees as y^e enter is lesser, and upon y^e columns y^t so lessen the entry are well carved little scripture stories ‡ in everie little part of each columnne, as before in the p'portion of the gate y^e may see. Wⁿ y^e are in the porch, y^e may see on one side in the wall the effigies of 6 of Xt's disciples curiouslie cut in stone, and effigies of our Saviour hovering ov' them. On the other side y^e may see the like.

"Wⁿ I entred into the church I had a strang' veneration came upon me to see the ruins of such a majestick and gigantick pile, with windowes over windowes and walks over walks in the walls, and statelie pillars, curious carved work everywhere; but as for monuments, I found not one antient but y^t of K. Ethelstan, a saxon King (son of Edward the Elder), who died an. 940, w^{ch} is more than an 100 and 20 yeares before the norman conquest. The description of this monument is according to my observation thus. Between the two upp' pillars on the south side of this bodie of the church now remaining is an altar monument of a yard and a quarter high, all built of plain free-stone, like in a manner to such stone monuments y^t wee see standing in our churchyards.

"On the top of the said monument layes the short p'portion of a man§ in a loose garment like a gowne, reaching to his feet, but without sleeves. He hath a coronet on his head, a ball in his left

* A larg tower, see after (Leland). A spire (Leland).

† "Cranmer's license to convert the Abbey Church into a Parish Church is dated 20th August, 1541." *Vide* Aubrey and Jackson's "Topographical Collections for Wilts" 4to., 1862, p. 262.

‡ In everie one of these small divisions is a little storie.

§ Histories tells us y^t he was a short man.

hand, and a scepter in his right. His head being defaced in the late civil warr,* the inhabitants put on another with a bushie beard, but whether like to y^e form' I cannot tell. At and beyond his head layes an antient carved peice of tabernacular worke,† much like that over our Found's head (Walter de Merton) y^t is over Merton College gate; all w^{ch} except the scepter is of free-stone. There is a lyon also couchant at his feet, and on each side of y^e King's head sets an angell, all of free-stone also, but y^e angells seeme to be new, and not unlikelie added to the monument.

"This monument I suppose did form'lie stand in the choire on the s. side, but removed to this place at the dissolution.

"In the place of the choire is now a garden belonging to a Gentleman's house, at y^e east end of the body of [the] church or on the east side at some distance.

"At the upper end of this body is a monument for one Hobbes,‡ who died an. 1606, of the family of Hobbes of Newport, a little hamlet joyning to Malsbury, where our great philosopher, Tho. Hobbes of Malmsburie, received his first breath. Not one coat of ar'es in the windowes of this church."

Wood then gives at length Leland's account of Malmesbury; at the end he says:

"Thus farr Leland concerning Malmesbyrie, but w^{ch} is a wond' to me, not one word of a monument in the abbey chirch, and particularie y^t of K. Ethelstan, w^{ch} y^e inhabitants shew to this day."

Marlborough.

[1800, *Part II.*, p. 1025.]

Plate I. represents the north view of a fine cromlech on Marlborough Downs, Wilts, situated about two miles from the town of that name, and the same distance from Avebury. As I have never seen a correct view of it published, and being desirous of collecting every "scattered ray of information" upon the Druidical monuments, as well as the natural history of Wiltshire, I have been induced to make a drawing for the *Gentleman's Magazine*, hoping through that medium to obtain some information upon this object. . . .

J. BRITTON.

* "Sir William Waller's soldiers broke the head of the figure to pieces." *Vide* Aubrey and Jackson's "Topographical Collections for Wilts," 4to., 1862, p. 258.

† Und' the said tabernacular work were not long since seen some bones.

‡ "There is still in Malmesbury Abbey Church a brass to Edmund Hobbes, a burgess, 1606, and the name often occurs in the parish registers between 1590 and 1610." *Vide* Aubrey and Jackson's "Topographical Collections for Wilts," 4to., 1862, p. 265.

Mere.

[1819, *Part I.*, pp. 525, 526.]

The church at Mere is a large fine old church, built on the plan of a cathedral, with a beautiful tower, which is no less conspicuous for its elegant simplicity than for its being a remarkable specimen of most excellent masonry. It consists of a nave, two aisles, two chancels and a choir with stalls of oak, become almost black with age. The choir is separated from the body of the church by a most beautiful wooden Gothic screen surmounted by a gallery. There are three entrances, one in the tower and two by the porches on the north and south. Over the north porch is a statue of St. Michael, to whom the church is dedicated, and which bears the marks of great antiquity. The interior is lofty, spacious, well lighted, and capable of containing a large congregation. The architecture is Gothic in its most simple and unadorned state, the pillars light and elegant, and the arches high and pointed. That cathedral service was performed here at some remote period is highly probable, from the circumstance that certain houses in the town were assessed in certain specific sums for the payment of the chanter, and which assessment is still continued under the title of chantry rent. A house which I once possessed in the town pays 17s. annually, and to the best of my recollection, the whole amounted to something more than £12, which no doubt was a considerable sum at the time when it was levied, and is a criterion by which the magnitude of the establishment may be computed. This assessment is still collected by the Grove family (who possess the great tithes), in consequence, I apprehend, of their being possessors of an old house in the churchyard, which to this day is called the chantry-house, and in times past might have been appropriated to the use of the organist and chanter. Does a rent of this kind exist in any other parish in England? In the churchwarden's books are items of the salary paid to the organist, and which, I believe, is as low as 20s. It would be a matter of curious investigation to ascertain if such an establishment as I have supposed ever existed, and the cause and time of its decay, and also of the alienation of the great tithes. No doubt there are documents in the Grove family, who inherited from the Chafins, which would throw considerable light on the subject. The above are merely my own conjectures, and are probably erroneous, for I am well aware that "chantry" also means churches endowed with salaries for the maintenance of priests to sing masses for the souls of the deceased, and if such was the appropriation of the chantry rent, it decidedly proves this church to have been in a flourishing state before the Reformation. At any rate, the chantry rent is a subject of curious investigation. The antiquity of this church may be traced still higher

than the Reformation by this circumstance, that in the time of Henry III. a castle is said to have stood on a hill close to the town, and which is supposed at that time to have been in the centre of it. The hill is steep and of considerable elevation, apparently artificial, and is still called Castle Hill, the principal street in the town being also named Castle Street. I am entirely ignorant on what authority this tradition rests. Camden does not mention it, and I should like to be informed if it is to be found in any of our earliest topographers and historians. However, it is certain that a part of the fosse still remains, and the entrance at the site where the gateway may be supposed to have stood is still visible towards the east. I remember when a boy to have heard that in digging on a part of the hill, for what purpose I know not, a doorway and steps of stone had been discovered, and also some fireirons of an antique form. I mean to infer from these circumstances (and it is no improbable or unreasonable conjecture) that if the town in the time of Henry III. was of sufficient importance to possess a castle, that it must necessarily possess a church also, and which fixes its age at 600 years at least; but its antiquity is probably much higher, as I think there can be very little doubt of its having been built soon after the Conquest, when the heavy Saxon began to give way to the light and elegant Gothic, and before the florid and highly ornamented style was introduced. . . .

OBSERVER.

[1832, *Part I.*, pp. 297, 298.]

I send you a drawing of the screen and some engravings which I have made in wood of panelling and carving in Mere Church.

This church, of which Sir R. C. Hoare has given a view and description in his valuable "*History of Wilts.*," is more regular in its outline than in its style, consisting of a nave, two aisles and a choir, with a chancel or chantry on each side of it, some of which members, however, having been built at different times, are in different styles of architecture. The tower, which is about 90 feet high, has octagonal turrets at the corners, ending in lofty pyramidal pinnacles, and is embattled at the top, and surrounded by a deep border of close quatrefoil-work. The nave is divided from each aisle by four pillars of a light pattern, and above these are, or rather were, as many clerestory windows; for those on the north side have their lights walled up, but their mullions and tracery are left, while the opposite ones, which are open, have lost their mullions, and are simple pigeon-hole openings in the wall.

The screen is of oak, wrought in the richest and lightest style of church carving, and having from its size and proportion a fine effect. The lower part (which is unfortunately hidden by pews, though I have drawn it as visible) is filled up with panelling, carved with finial work in high relief, and in the middle is a line of trefoils with the

spandril spaces above them occupied by open quatrefoiled circles and trefoils beneath. The arches are richly carved in trefoil work, and the little columns that support the gallery open into fanwork groins, above which rises the cornice, adorned with two lines of carved and gilt vine-leaves.

The panelling of the gallery is newer than the screen, as it appears by the churchwarden's book, which goes back to the time of Philip and Mary, that at the accession of Queen Elizabeth they defaced "the images of the xii apostles, whych were paynted on the face of the Rodelofte," a proof that there were then twelve panels, though there are now only nine; and that on the following year they took down "the rodelofte by the commandement by the Bysshop."

It seems also that they took down the rood and altars by command of "The Queen's Maties vysytors," whom they met three times at Sarum, and defaced "the seates or tabernacles of the images through all the church."

Just behind the roodloft, where the workhouse poor now sit, was the organ, the item for playing which ceases about the year 1613, and in 1636 it is mentioned in an inventory of the church goods as "old decayed organs in the loft over the north isle," after which it is no more noticed; and little attention seems to have been given to the screen from the accession of Elizabeth to 1720, when it was coloured.

In 1558 the parishioners purchased a copy of the English Bible, which cost 16s. 8d., of course a great sum at that time; and in 1635 a copy of Bishop Jewell's works was bought for 40s., and, as was then common, fastened with an iron chain in the chancel.

In 1584, among other vessels in the church, are named four dozen trenchers and four stone cups. In 1638 an almanack was set up in the church and an hour-glass was bought, and the next year a half-hour glass—perhaps to regulate the length of the sermon.

In 1589, about the time of the Spanish invasion, they bought a barrel of gunpowder, probably for defence, as in 1620 it was ordered to be sold; but in 1628, when the difficulties of the unfortunate Charles I. began to thicken, seven barrels of gunpowder are written in the account of the church stock.

At the beginning of the seventeenth century the money collected for the poor was so much more than the outlay that the churchwardens put out a considerable sum of money in loans of four or five pounds to different tradesmen, but in 1638 they recalled it, and expended it in building an almshouse.

The yew-tree, which is now in vigour, was planted in 1636, and some lime-trees, which are trained in a canopy over the churchyard paths, in 1732.

Some of the chief renovations about this church have taken place as follows:

1587. The path paved at 1½d. a yard.
 1589. A new pulpit.
 1594. A new bell.
 1616. Two new bells.
 1636. Tower-loft and south leads laid, and about 1,000 feet of paving done.
 1685. New clock and chimes and reading-desk.
 1705. Singers' gallery erected ; a pinnacle blown down and restored.
 1713. South side of the church rebuilt by a Mr. Stoakes for £124.
 This was a regular job, in which saving was the object of the parish officers and gain that of the builder, who has lighted a badly-built aisle by windows with ugly mullions without tracery.
 1748. Tenor bell cast.
 1807. Organ put up.
 The specimen of panelling, No. 1, is that of the front of a gallery containing eight panels in the north aisle. The large middle quatre-foils are occupied by shields described by Sir R. C. Hoare. There are ten panels of the pattern No. 2 in the gallery of the south aisle. The circular pattern, No. 3, is that of the panels of the gallery which was once the organ loft, and the following is a specimen of grotesque carvings in high relief on some old seats or stalls in the chancel.
 The arches between the choir and side chapels or chantries are filled up with open carved work like the screen.
 As the church is not near the thoroughfare, a clock is put in an upper room of the old market-house, called the cross-loft. (See woodcut.)
 W. BARNES.

Monkton Farley.

[1744, pp. 139, 140.]

Three labourers being employed to level a very uneven piece of ground, used for a coney warren, belonging to Webb Seymour, Esq., at Monkton Farley, found the pillar of a church, and about 4 feet under the rubbish discovered a chancel, of a very curious Roman pavement in chequer-work, adorned with various figures, the bricks about 4 inches square and an inch thick. This place consists of about 24 feet each way, its situation being east and west. In the front are four flat stones, under which persons are interred. The second stone from the southward has a French inscription on it, and Prior Lawrence, who is represented in his prior's habit, in the posture of praying. He was buried A.D. 616. The substance of his inscription is, "He desires you to pray for his sins," etc. The other three stones are without inscriptions. In the north angle of the chancel is a tomb like a seat, with the following inscription on its surface in characters thus rendered :

✠ H^AI^BIL^RB^D CH^AB^ONI^AT^E D^S
 Q^UE^BNA^DDT^HP^LU^ADA ✠

"Hic jacet Ilbertus, de Chatboniate de Se,
 Qui cum Brotona, dedit hic perpluria dona."

Thus Englished :

"Here lies Ilbertus de Chatboniate of Seend, who with Brotona gave here several Gifts."

It has also the same inscription on the side in Roman and Saxon characters after the present way of writing. About two-thirds of the chancel to the eastward is a step ascending to the altar, in which is a sepulchre opened and the skeleton of a stout man, who was upwards of 6 feet high. On the flat stone of this sepulchre is carved in basso-relievo his bust, and under that a lion, as an hieroglyphical emblem of his character. This person, by his near interment to the altar, I suppose, might be the founder of this abbey or monastery. To the south side of the altar is a floor about 4 feet under the rubbish of the same pavement with the former, and about 10 feet square, but no body interred there. On the north side of the altar, which I imagine was in the churchyard, is another sepulchre opened, with the lower part of a skeleton, but the upper part wanting. Farther to the northward is a yew-tree, which is a plain demonstration that this was a churchyard belonging to the abbey. To the west and northward are several very large stone pillars, with various figures cut on them, which appear as fresh as if immediately hewn out of a quarry. As to the dimensions of this church, it is impossible to give an exact account how far it extended, for there were, about twenty years ago, to the southward, at a considerable distance, dug up three more sepulchres, but without any inscriptions upon them; also a heap of bones, from which it is evident there was a charnel-house belonging to this church. It is very probable, as the rubbish is cleared away, many more curiosities will be discovered in the body of the church. The labourers have found a silver cup, spoon, and thimble.

[1744, p. 271.]

The greatest curiosity in the description of the ruins of this church found underground at Monkton Farley is the epitaph of Ilbertus de Chatboniate de Se, or de Seend, as he is styled by your correspondent, but the uncouthness of the name causing me to consider it with a little attention, I soon discovered that the true reading must be :

"Hic jacet Ilbertus de Chaz bonitate refertus
 Qui cum Brotona dedit hic perpluria dona."

These two verses are of the monkish leonine kind, in which the middle and tail rhyme, as "Ilbertus refertus," which is a demonstration that I have hit right upon the last word. It seems to be much obliterated, I suppose by some breach or decay of that end of the stone, because the inscription cut on the side of it does not supply the letters lost upon the top. There are two charters in the "*Monast. Angl.*," t. i., p. 620, belonging to this priory of Monkton Farley, in both of which mention is made of Ilbertus de Chaz for giving Brocton and other things to this place; and he is a witness also to one of them. He seems to have been contemporary with the second Humphry de Bohun, founder of this religious house, and a great benefactor to it. Therefore, instead of Chatboniate must be substituted Chaz bonitate, and all will be well, the last word but one in the first verse being plainly "bonitate." Brotoner, or Broctoner, is Broughton, a town in that neighbourhood. Such a word as "perpluria" cannot be found in the Latin language; "perplurina" may, though not a very good one. Perhaps there may have been a transverse stroke denoting an "M" over the two last letters of this word that has escaped the transcriber's eye unobserved.

[1785, *Part II.*, p. 683.]

I should be very glad if the person who communicated to you the inscription, etc., in Monkton Farley Church, Wilts, would inform you where they are now to be seen: whether preserved in Lord Webb Seymour's house, or in the parish church, or whether destroyed; as also whether any drawing or copy could be obtained. If your correspondent will reveal himself, and tell us anything more about this ancient place, he will oblige your readers, and particularly

D. H.

Norton.

[1791, *Part II.*, p. 921.]

I send you an impression of a gold coin (Plate III., Fig. 28) found in the parish of Norton, Wilts. Many hundreds of Roman coins in copper, mixed silver, and cased iron have been found in the same neighbourhood, with heads of different emperors, well preserved; but this stands singular from all the rest, being of more modern date, and of pure unalloyed gold.* An engraving, with an explanation of it, will much oblige

W. B.

Old Sarum.

[1795, *Part I.*, p. 95.]

A subterranean passage has lately been discovered within the limits of the ancient city of Old Sarum. The late severe frosts and sudden inundations which succeeded, by pressing more strongly than usual on the slight surface that covered the mouth of the

* It is a gold coin of Bayeux; BERICIS being the moneyer's name.—ED.

entrance, have opened a passage under the ramparts in the north-east quarter, near the supposed site of one of the ancient towers. By a doorway of near 4 feet in width, a part of the square stone columns of which remain in a perfect state, a spacious covered way is entered of about 7 feet in breadth, and from 8 to 10 feet or more in height, with a circular or Saxon roof, evidently artificial. It has been found to descend in an angle nearly parallel to the glacis of the surrounding ditch to the distance of 114 feet; but the loose chalk from above which has rolled down and choked up the bottom at present prevents any farther progress. It was probably designed as a passage to the fosse and outworks.

VIATOR.

[1795, *Part I.*, pp. 193, 194.]

It will no doubt excite your curiosity when I inform you that a subterranean passage has been discovered at Old Sarum.

Some persons of Salisbury on Saturday last went to the upper verge of the fortification (the citadel), and on the right hand, after they had reached the summit, discovered a large hole. They got a candle and lantern, and went down a flight of steps for more than 30 yards. It was an arched way, 7 feet wide, neatly chiselled out of the solid rock or chalk. It is probable the crown of the arch gave way from the sudden thaw and fell in. There is a great deal of rubbish at the entrance. It appears to be between 6 and 7 feet high, and a circular arch overhead all the way. These particulars I learned from the person who himself explored it, but was afraid to go farther lest it might fall in again and bury him. He thinks it turns a little to the right towards Old Sarum house, and continues under the fosse till it reached the outer verge. The marks of a chisel, he says, are visible on the side. There are two pillars at the entrance, which appear to have had a door at foot.

Plate II., Fig. 1, is a sketch of Old Sarum; *aaaaa*, the situation of the underground passage and its direction.

Fig. 2 a large view of the opening. At the entrance still remain two large pillars of square stone, 18 inches by 27; neat masonry-work of good free-stone, about 18 inches square and 8 thick.

Fig. 3 marks its descent by steps, all cut in the solid chalk; the height from 7 to 8 feet. *bbbb*, the surface of the ground, the top of the highest part of the archway being 2 feet below the surface of the ground.

It is all now again filled up by order of Farmer Whitchurch, who rents the ground of Lord Camelford, and thinks curiosity would bring so many people there as to tread down his grass, whenever grass shall be there.

I went into it 30 yards, which was as far as I could get for the rubbish.

I measured it with a line, and found it extend full 120 feet inwards

from the two pillars, supposed to be the entrance; then onwards it appeared to be filled to the roof with rubbish. By measuring with the same line on the surface of the earth, I found it must go under the bottom of the outer bank of the outer trench, where I think the opening may be found by digging a very little way.

Whether it was a Roman or a Norman work it is difficult to say; but it certainly was intended as a private way to go into or out of the castle, and probably a fort or strong castle was built over the outer entrance.

I looked for inscriptions or coins, but have not heard of any being found.

[1796, *Part I.*, pp. 185, 186.]

The subterranean passage discovered at Old Sarum is again opened by the exertions of Mr. Ogden, a neighbouring gentleman, who has also obtained leave from Lord Camelford (or his steward) to prosecute any further discoveries there which he may think proper. There are three different conjectures as to the design of this aperture. Some think it was made for a sally-port; others, to be steps leading to a well; and a third opinion is that it leads to a dungeon for confining prisoners. The steps being cut in the chalk, and yet not much worn, shows that it was never much used, whatever purpose it was designed for. It is so filled up with rubbish that it would cost a considerable sum to clear it out from the mouth; but it might be effected at a very small expense were an opening made at the bottom of the outer trench, the roof being there (as appears by measuring) but just beneath the turf; and this place would be 30 yards at least from the mouth.

The cross (Fig. 5) was ploughed up on the lower ring of Old Sarum about seven years since. It is of brass, very thin, and of this exact size. On the opposite side is engraved S D PETRE, where the S JOANNES is, and IHS on the centre of the cross above it. It is still in my possession. I apprehend, by the perfection of the Roman letters, it was brought from Rome, and accompanied some grant from the Pope to the Church of St. John, in the eastern suburb of Old Sarum.

P. Q.

[1801, *Part II.*, p. 881.]

I send you an east view of Old Sarum (Plate I.), being the entrance to that ancient fortification, of which an account may be seen, with the opinions of Leland, Stukeley, Price and other writers on that subject, in the "Beauties of Wiltshire," vol. i., pp. 19-42.

J. BRITTON.

[1834, *Part II.*, p. 418.]

An opportunity has lately offered itself for ascertaining the site and dimensions of the cathedral church erected by Bishop Osmund at

Old Sarum. The continued dry weather has brought to view the ground-plan of an edifice which has disappeared for centuries, and of which even the situation had become a matter of conjecture. It was in the form of a plain cross, not terminating at the east end in a semicircle, as was generally the case in buildings of that era, with side aisles to the nave and choir. The following may be considered as an approximate measurement of its several parts, which show great harmony of proportion: Total length, 270 feet; length of the transept, 150 feet; of the nave, 150 feet; of the choir, 60 feet; breadth of the nave, 72 feet, of which 18 feet were taken on each side for the aisles; of the transept, 60 feet. At the west end the aisles to the length of 30 feet appear to have been partitioned off as if for chapels. This edifice, which was standing a full century after the foundation of the new cathedral, was demolished in virtue of letters patent of Edward III., 1331.

[1835, *Part II.*, pp. 143-146.]

PLAN OF THE CATHEDRAL OF OLD SARUM.

It will be recollected that, owing to the dryness of last summer, the foundations were perceived through the grass of the ancient cathedral on the hill of Old Sarum.

Mr. Hatcher, the author of a recent "Account of Old and New Sarum,"* did not neglect the opportunity thus afforded of obtaining information relative to this long-vanished edifice, and from such traces as he found, assisted by the analogies of other structures similar in their destination and the period of their erection, he exercised his ingenuity in the formation of the plan which we have now the pleasure to lay before our readers.†

The Saxon diocese of Wiltshire was divided from the more ancient bishopric of Sherborne about the middle of the ninth century,‡ and the see was fixed at Wilton. Herman, a somewhat restless prelate, in the reign of Edward the Confessor made an unsuccessful attempt to remove the see to Malmesbury; but a few years after, on the death of the Bishop of Sherborne, he effected the reunion of the dioceses of Dorsetshire and Wiltshire, and finally, after the Norman Conquest, removed the see to the hill of Sorbiodunum, or Searesbyrig.

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1834, vol. ii., p. 273.

† Of the entire hill of Old Sarum former plans have been made, and copies have been published in various forms; sometimes the streets are laid out, we presume on the authority of Leland, and sometimes a pretended view of the castle is added; but we will not allow this opportunity to pass without remarking that that castle is copied from the sepulchral brass of Bishop Wyvill in Salisbury Cathedral, where it was intended for a representation (whether a correct one we are unable to say), not of the Castle of Sarum, but of that of Sherborne, of which Bishop Wyvill was Constable. See Gough's "Sepulchral Monuments," vol. i., p. 132; and the engraving in Carter's "Ancient Sculpture and Painting."

‡ Ælfstan, Bishop of Wilton, is mentioned in a charter of Edgar in 868.

This change he was enabled to accomplish under the authority of an ordinance of the Council held at London in 1075, which directed that bishops' sees should be removed from obscure places to the towns of the greatest importance in their dioceses; though it appears, from several old authors, that Old Sarum was never much of a city, but only, as the castle of the Sheriff of Wiltshire, it had become the seat of the civil jurisdiction of the county. Herman is said to have commenced the cathedral of Old Sarum, and after his death in 1077, the work was carried on and completed by his successor, Osmund.

The edifice was completed in the year 1092, when, with the assistance of Walcheline, Bishop of Winchester, and John, Bishop of Bath and Wells (one authority says with seven bishops), he performed the ceremony of dedication on the nones of April. Only five days after a violent storm destroyed the roof, as is commemorated in the following lines of the rhyming chronicle of Robert of Gloucester :

"So gret lytnynge was the vyfte yer, so that al to nogt
The rof of the chyrch of Salesbury it broute,
Ryght evene the vyfte day that he yhalwed was."

Unless there is some confusion, the coincidence here is extraordinary, that the church should be dedicated on the fifth of April, in the fifth year of the King's reign, and that it should be so greatly injured five days after. Yet the last fact is repeated by Knighton. However, the church was completed by Bishop Osmund, and he was buried in 1099. His bones were afterwards translated to the new cathedral, and he was canonized in 1456.

His successors at Old Sarum were Roger, who died in 1139; Jocelyn, who died in 1184; Hubert Walter, translated to Canterbury in 1193; Herbert Poore, who died in 1216; and Richard Poore, in whose time the present cathedral of Salisbury was founded.

The ground plan of this cathedral, as shown by the traces of the foundations seen last year, was in the form of a plain cross, with side aisles to the nave and choir. The architect seems to have imitated the style of the ancient portion of the cathedral of Winchester, which is said to have been built by Wacheline and finished in 1097. The east end did not terminate in a semicircular apsis, as buildings of that era frequently did. The following may be considered as an approximate measurement of its several parts, which display great harmony of proportion: Total length, 270 feet; length of the transept, 150 feet; of the nave, 150 feet; of the choir, 60 feet; breadth of the nave, 72 feet, of which 18 feet were taken on each side for the aisles; of the transept, 60 feet. At the west end the aisles, to the length of 30 feet, appear to have been partitioned off as if for chapels. The foundations of the nave were found to be above 7 feet thick, and those of the transept above 5 feet, without the facings.

The reasons for the removal of the clergy from this church were the bleakness of the situation, which occasioned their buildings to

suffer frequently from storms, a want of water, and quarrels with the soldiers of the castle. The following lines, whether written at the time or at a subsequent period, express the sentiments of the ecclesiastics on the subject :

“Quid Domini Domus in Castro, nisi fœderis arca
In Templo Baalim? Carcer uterque locus,
Est ibi defectus aquæ, sed copia cretæ,
Sæviti ibi ventus, sed philomela silet.”

The new cathedral was begun in 1220; the bodies of the three bishops, Osmund, Roger and Jocelyn, were removed thither in 1226; and the final consecration took place in 1258. In 1331 King Edward III. granted permission to the Bishop and Dean and Chapter to remove the stone walls of their church and houses within his fortress of Old Sarum, and to employ them in the improvement of their new church, and of the enclosure of the same. In the same record reference is made to the chantry dedicated to St. Mary, which was probably a foundation anterior even to the ancient cathedral itself, and which they were permitted to establish anew in any other place within the fortress. This chapel is again mentioned in the chapter records in 1392 as then wanting repair, as well as its organ. In the valuable account which Leland has left us of Old Sarum, it is stated that the only token then remaining of the cathedral was “a chapelle of our Lady, yet standing and mainteynid.”

The other important particulars that Leland furnishes of Old Sarum are these :

“There was a parish of the Holy Rood, and another [church] over the East Gate, whereof yet some tokens remain.

“I do not perceive that there were any more Gates in Old Salisbury than two, one by east and another by west. Without each of these Gates was a fair suburb; and in the east suburb was a parish church of St. John,* and there yet is a chapel standing.

“There have been houses in time of mind inhabited in the east suburb of Old Salisbury; but now there is not one house, either within Old Salisbury or without, inhabited.

“There was a right fair and strong Castle belonging to the Earls of Salisbury. Much notable ruinous building of this Castle yet there remaineth. The ditch that environed the town was a very deep and strong thing.”

Mr. Bowles, in the concluding pages of his “History of Lacock Abbey,” to which interesting and animated work we are indebted for the plans, has given the following eloquent description of the view from Old Sarum :

“It was on the 16th day of February, having completed the last

* Traces of interments, indicating the cemetery of this church, were found in 1834.

sheets of this long story of other days, I stood on the summit of the silent mound of Old Sarum, the eventful scene of much of this history. I stood on the site, as it is conceived, of Edward the Sheriff's Castle, recalling the names and characters and events of a distant age, when on this spot a City shone, with its Cathedral and its Norman Castle lifting their pinnacles and turrets above the clouds; and here, on this majestic and solitary eminence, the Regal form of the stern Conqueror, his mailed Barons, the gray-haired and mitred Osmund, who had exchanged his sword for a crosier, and young Edward, ancestor of the Foundress of Lacock, seemed to pass before me, followed by the crowned Troubadour, Richard of the 'Lion's Heart,' his heroic Brother of the 'Long Sword' buried in the Cathedral below; and Ela, his bereaved and pious Widow, pale, placid and tearful, the Foundress of that Abbey whose Annals we have been the first distinctly to relate.

"I turned my eyes, and beheld the vast and solitary plains below, stretching on every side like Ocean. To the north-west, hid only by an intervening elevation of the Downs, Stonehenge, 'wonder of ages,' was still sitting in her sad glory, to which most ancient Temple of the Sun it might be conceived the Bards, descending in procession whilst it was yet dark on solemn festivals from the sacred hill of Salisbury,* and joining in the open space between the vast forests,† struck their harps in acclaim as the mighty object of their adoration slowly ascended above the eastern hills.

"To the west, south-west, east, and north-east strode on in direct lines over hill and vale, with traces after fifteen centuries distinct as yesterday, the four mighty Roman Roads, here meeting as in a centre. Immediately on our right, a little below the mound on which the Norman banner floated on the aerial keep of the Citadel, we marked the site of the ancient and vanished Cathedral.

"Towards the east anciently appeared the battlements of Clarendon Palace; to the south-west the field of tournament, of which the chivalrous Cœur de Lion appointed five in England; to the east and south-east, crowning the further heights, the camps occupied by the Belgic invaders in their progress to the Severn, still seemed to awe the surrounding country; whilst a series of barrows terminated the view until their forms were lost in the distance.

"But the most interesting sight remained. On the left, surmounting the towers and lesser spires, the houses and smoke of the City of the Living, shone the aerial spire of the Cathedral of New Sarum, with the morning sun on its elfin shaft; and could we be insensible to the thought that within those walls the sacred rites of Christian worship, with a purer and more scriptural service, had been unin-

* Solis-bury. See Davies's "*Celtic Antiquities*," "hill of bards."

† Namely, of Clarendon, united with the New Forest, and extending to the sea—the vast woody track of Cranbourne Chace, Great Ridge, Groveley, etc.

terrapturedly kept up—save in the short intervening space of the fanatical republic—for six hundred years, as duly and solemnly as when the youthful Henry and his Justiciary, Hubert de Burgh, offered their gifts on the altar ; with this difference, indeed, that the plain sacramental bread had succeeded the Elevation of the Host, an emblem derived from the ancient Druidical worship of the Sun on its first elevation above the horizon ?* And could we forget that the plain open Word of God, the white amice, the decent forms, had succeeded the pompous ceremonial and pageantry of Popish rites, whilst the children of the choir, instead of tossing to and fro their censors, with the words of Latin, repeating by rote, ‘*Meâ culpâ, meâ maximâ culpâ,*’ now after the chant are seen bending their heads over their Bibles, as the lesson for the day is read, presenting one of the most interesting sights of the Protestant, or rather, purer Catholic Church.

“To return to the desolate hill. No human creature was in sight, save some poor women gathering sticks among the thorns of the ramparts. A few sheep were bleating in the foss. The rivers Nadder and Avon were seen tranquilly meandering in the nether vale, whilst the solitary tree in an adjoining meadow, under which for centuries the burgesses for this ancient City had been elected, now with its bare trunk seemed to resemble its fortune, one branch only remaining.

“I descended, musing on the events which a new Parliament, under new auspices, might bring forth, either for good or for evil ; perhaps in the end destined to leave the present Cathedral as desolate as the former. These events are in the hand of God ; be ours submission and prayers.”

[1835, *Part II.*, p. 640.]

The outline of the transept of Old Sarum Cathedral has been traced, and its dimensions ascertained to be 176 feet in length and about 70 feet in breadth. Another interment has also been discovered. The body lay near the east end, a little above the feet of that previously found, and in the usual position, with the feet to the east. As in the former case, there was no coffin. But a discovery worthy of notice is that of a vacant grave, hollowed in the foundation of what appears to have been the plinth, supporting the range of pillars which separated the choir from its southern aisle. It is about 12 feet from the eastern extremity of the building, and consequently must have been under the first arch on the right side of the high altar. It is 6 feet 7½ inches long, 2 feet 2½ inches wide at the head,

* The emblem is therefore round, surrounded with a blaze of jewellery, as rays of the luminary which it represented. This might be called indeed the “ancient faith !” as the early corruptions of the Christian creed have been absurdly called.

1 foot 10 inches at the foot, and 10 inches in depth. The bottom is formed by the foundation itself, and the sides and ends were lined with hewn stone accurately set. The northern side and the two ends still remain. It is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet under the surface of the ground. From its situation and form we need not hesitate to ascribe this receptacle to the original founder of our church, the venerable Bishop Osmund, whose monumental slab, preserved in the present cathedral, exactly agrees with it, whilst those of Bishops Roger and Joceline (also removed in 1226 to the new fabric) do not. At the eastern termination of the building, and without the wall, near the bottom of the foundation, a massive key was discovered, about 8 inches long, and weighing nearly a pound. It doubtless belonged to some door of the church. It is a very extraordinary circumstance that old men, who have a clear recollection of the hill for seventy years, cannot remember that any traces of the foundations appeared before last year, nor was the situation of the church known except from antiquarian conjecture.

[1835, *Part II.*, p. 540.]

Excavations have been made in different parts of the site of the ancient cathedral at Old Sarum. The principal angles of the building are opened. The foundations are laid on the solid chalk at the depth of 6 or 7 feet, where the ground is highest. They consist of flints and fragments of stone embedded in mortar, and are still surprisingly firm and compact. The soil itself to the same depth is factitious, and composed of fragments of stone and rubbish. The length of the nave from outside to outside is 275 feet, and the breadth 75 feet; the thickness of the wall without facings, 6 feet. The dimensions of the transept have not yet been satisfactorily made out. There is no appearance of a crypt. At the east end, within the building, an interment was discovered at the depth of about 3 feet. Contrary to the usual custom, the head lay to the east, close to the foundation of the wall. There was, however, not the slightest trace of a coffin or any species of envelope.

Pottern.

[1805, *Part I.*, p. 200.]

Lately, as a boy was ploughing a field at Pottern, in Wilts, the share took up on its point a fine old ring of the purest gold, weighing 18 dwts. 19 grs., on an estate belonging to Mr. Gregory Clement, temp. Charles I., and was said to have once belonged to Bishop Bonner; but, upon applying to Mr. Townsend, of the Herald's Office, we find it is of much earlier date, and, excepting a crescent for difference, corresponds exactly with an entry made in the Visitation of Wilts, anno 1566, for George Burley, of Whistley, in the parish of

Pottern, Esq., whose great-grandmother was a coheir of Bonham. Some of that family may be still living, and, if desirous of obtaining the seal, may have it for a trifle more than the weight of the gold, by applying to Mr. Basnet, Bond Street, Bath.

1 and 4. Burley, three boars' heads.

2. Bonham, a chevron wavy between three crosses formée fitchée.

3. Three spears erect in fess. (See Plate I., Fig. 3.) H. W.

Salisbury.

[1754, p. 188.]

As some labourers were recently levelling a small barrow on Little Durnford Downs, near Salisbury, they found a human skeleton lying on the left side in a sloping posture. It was covered over with large flint-stones, not above 2 feet below the surface of the earth; the jaws and teeth were perfectly sound. About twenty years ago two small urns of ordinary clay and rude workmanship were taken out of the same barrow, about 3 feet on the left side of the above skeleton; and not above 2 yards distant was found a human trunk with a dart in it—which urns and dart are in the possession of a member of the Royal Society, who was at Little Durnford when they were dug up. The antiquaries are desirous to account for the bodies of some and ashes of others being buried together in one and the same tumulus.

[1772, p. 147.]

Some workmen, making a road near the college in Salisbury, have lately discovered several human skeletons, one of which had a helmet fastened under the chin, which, by the form, is supposed to be as ancient as the reign of William Rufus. It weighed fifteen ounces. By the side of the skeleton was found an iron head of a spear, 10 inches in length and 3 inches in breadth.

[1789 *Part II.*, pp. 873-875.]

I know no cathedral in Great Britain in which the imagination and taste of an antiquary might have been indulged with more extent and advantage than that of Salisbury. The architecture was of the boldest and lightest style, the design uniform and elegant, the execution equal to its situation, and the lofty spire the wonder of the kingdom. For disposition and character, as well as number of monuments, this church had few rivals. The *tout ensemble* of this cathedral was perfect in its kind for 500 years from its first erection. In the middle of the fifteenth century were added, on each side of the beautiful, airy Lady Chapel, two chapels—that on the south

crowded with decorations in that style of ornamented Gothic architecture which obtained during the reigns of the three succeeding Henrys IV., V., VI.; that on the north filled with some of the best specimens of ancient painting.

Such was Salisbury Cathedral till the middle of the present century.

I have lived to see the range of monuments which lined the choir shut out by a wainscoting of stalls, in a style of Gothic which the members of the Chapter now begin to be ashamed of, and overloaded with heavy galleries; and those tombs which could be seen only from the side aisles shut up in wainscot presses. But this year has completed the plan, which, under pretence of giving uniformity to the building, by laying the Lady Chapel into the choir, already of a length adapted to every purpose, has removed the monuments from the chapel, broken into the graves beneath them, raised the floor of the chapel so as to bury the bases of the slender-clustered columns at least 18 inches, which are to be supplied by new bases of the former design added round them. Nor has the rage of reformation stopped here: it has doomed to destruction the two side-chapels, the south porch, leading into the presbytery, and the north porch, leading into the upper north transept. The monuments in these two chapels, and in the wall between them and the Lady Chapel, as well as those in the Lady Chapel itself, and that of Bishop Blythe behind the high altar, are to be ranged on each side of this elongation, as it may be called, of the choir, or perhaps on each side of the nave, and the remains, such as could be found, of the parties interred under them, are to follow them. The ornaments of the Beauchamps, in the south chapel, are to be put up at the east end about the altar out of their original destination; and the arms and memorials of benefactors, and noble and religious personages, will be affixed to walls and pillars they had no connection with. The graves covered by brassless slabs in the presbytery, which, in their original disposition, could be assigned to their proper owners, are all removed,* and are to be cut into paving-slabs, without regard to their inscriptions or other marks. The remains of paintings on the walls of Hungerford Chapel will be exposed to the rain, or defaced by pulling down of the wall. But this is not all, for the curious paintings on the roof of the choir and its transepts, of an antiquity equal to that of the fabric, and in a style that would do honour to the Italian school, are to be scraped off, and

* These are: Bishop Osmund, the first Bishop of the See, under whose slab nothing was found; Bishop Longspee, 1298, and several on each side of him, in whose graves have been found chalices, pattens, rings, and crosiers. The tombs of Bishop Blythe, Bishop Beauchamp, 1482, two of his predecessors, in the north wall of his chapel, Sir John Cheney, Walter Lord Hungerford and his lady, Longespee and Montacute, some of the first Earls of Salisbury, and Lord Stourton, have all by this time changed situations: and even the legible slab of Archdeacon Pace, who died 1540, is devoted to the mason's saw.

the site covered over with a uniform wash, to reflect a shade proper to set off an east window executed by Mr. Jarvis.

Such will be the state of Salisbury Cathedral at the close of the eighteenth century.

Far be it from me to enter into the councils of the diocesan, or the Chapter, or the architect, or determine who plans, suggests, or carries into execution these departures from the designs of our wise and pious forefathers; who, after the reforming zeal of Henry VIII., has deprived the church of the estates and funds bequeathed for the repair of the fabric, and left its spire, to which Walter Hungerford 450 years ago extended such a helping hand, to the mercy of a brief, recorded by you in your volume for 1788, part i., p. 511; who, I say, now solicit the aid of all charitable and well-disposed Christians, not merely to repair and restore, but to alter and new-model it. Leaving these within the walls of the city and the precincts of the close, be it my business only to record with historical verity what has been done, and is still doing, in this beautiful cathedral.

When the passing traveller* could not withhold his exclamations on these reforms, he was answered that the chapels were in a ruinous state, and injured the adjoining fabric; that the appropriated funds no longer existed; and that the removal of the monuments and bones was sanctioned by former practice. His remarks were treated as invidious reflections, and a sharp retort was given to the whole corps of antiquaries. The traveller has answered for himself.

I am sensible the profession of the antiquary is an object of the contempt and obloquy of modern connoisseurs, but I have the pleasure to inform you—and you may proclaim it to the world at large—that what is doing to this fabric, and what has been done away from it, shall live as long as printing or engraving can contribute to its immortality.

R. G.

In the cloister, at the entrance into the chapter-house, Salisbury:

"Here lieth the body of FRANCIS PRICE, architect, who departed this life March 20, 1753, in the 50th year of his age. He was surveyor and clerk of the fabric of this cathedral; directed the many and great repairs thereof, during the last 17 years, with great judgment and integrity. Many other works, both public and private, planned and executed by him, as they gained him the . . . (effaced) the nobility and gentry, are lasting monuments of his skill and abilities.

"[His wife died in 1761.]"

[1787, pp. 949, 950.]

Annexed hereto is a copy of an ancient tomb inlaid with brass, now in Salisbury Cathedral, made above 400 years ago, in the reign

* See a letter signed "Viator," in the *General Evening Post* of August 20-22; the answer, signed by an "Inhabitant of Salisbury," in the same paper, August 27-29; and the reply of "Viator" in that for September 5-8.

of Edward III. Size of the brass plate, 7 feet 9 inches in length, and 3 feet 10 inches in breadth.

It is a valuable relic of antiquity on several accounts, and as it is now every day decaying by means of petty pilferers, who suppose themselves collectors of antiquities, I think its memory may be best preserved by an engraving of it in your excellent repository.*

It has been generally supposed (and it is recorded as such) to be a draught of the castle of Old Sarum; and the well-known story of the Bishop for whom this was erected accepting of a single combat with Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, to decide, agreeable to the custom of that age, who had the best right to the castle of Old Sarum, is, I think, by this old monument clearly made out to be misrepresented. I have taken some pains to copy what remains of the inscription, which I have given in the plate as nearly resembling the original as possible. I shall here subjoin it in modern letters :

"Hic jacet interritus reverendissimus et venerabilis et inclytus pater in Deo Robertus Wyvil hujus aliquando diocesis episcopus qui congregavit et congregata ut pastor vigilans conservavit. Inter enim alia beneficia sua numina castrum dictæ ecclesiæ de Sherborn per ducentos annos et amplius manu militari violenter occupatum eidem ecclesiæ ut pugil† intrepidus recuperavit; ac ipsi ecclesiæ chaceam suam de la Bere restitui procuravit; qui quarto die Septembris anno Domini mill'imo CCCLXXV^o et anno consecrationis suæ XLV^o sicut Altissimo placuit in dicto castro debitum reddidit . . . quo speravit et credidit cuncta potens."

"Here lieth interred the most reverend and venerable Father in God, Robert Wyvil, of famous memory, etc., who collected together, and having so collected, as a watchful shepherd he guarded also the rights and privileges of this church; for, among other good things, he, by his power and authority, the castle of Sherborne, which had been wrested from the said church by military force for more than two hundred years, like an intrepid champion, again recovered. He also procured the restitution of her forest of Bere; and, as it pleased the Almighty, on the 4th day of September, in the year of our Lord 1375, and in the 45th year of his consecration, he paid the great debt of nature in the said castle, where he wished and expected to render up his life to Him in whom he hoped and believed himself able to do all things."

In this inscription we find no mention of Old Sarum. That castle had undoubtedly been the property of the Earls of Salisbury long before any bishop resided there, and it is not probable the bishop could justify any such claim; but the Castle of Sherborne, built by a Bishop of Salisbury, and adjoining to which formerly stood the cathedral of this diocese, till removed by order of William the Conqueror to Old Sarum, was most probably the castle in dispute; in confirmation of which conjecture this old inscription seems to allude to this intended combat: "castrum dictæ ecclesiæ de Schireborn per ducentos annos manu militari violenter occupatum eidem ecclesiæ pugil intrepidus recuperavit." By this it appears that it was

* See Plate II., Fig. 3, 4.

† These five words supplied from an old book, printed in 1723, since that time obliterated.

for the recovery of the castle of Sherborne that this monument records him the undaunted champion. Indeed, the authority upon which writers have mistaken it for Sarum is Camden, and he himself, in his "*Britannia*," in the margin, adds, "or Sherborn,* as some will have it."

The figures and castle, as engraved on this plate, deserve some attention. The figure of a bishop in the gallery over the gateway is, no doubt, the bishop himself in his pontificalibus, the crosier, rochet and mitre; he is in the act of re-consecrating the place, and purifying it from the defilements of the heathen, who had so long kept possession in defiance of holy Church. This is agreeable to the spirit of the religion of those days. The courts of the house, on his right hand and left, are here represented as overgrown with weeds and brambles, like the holy sanctuary at Jerusalem, and probably on this occasion the same Psalm (lxxix.) was made use of. Its solitary and desolate state also seems to be intimidated by the representation of the rabbits feeding and burrowing under its walls.

The armed figure before the gate, with the portcullis behind him, seems to denote the resolution of the bishop to maintain and defend his newly-restored rights. The bishop and champion are drawn out of all proportion to the castle, but this is an error of the age. In this armed figure we see the manner in which they fastened the shield by a thong of leather over the shoulders, as well as the form of the shield; also the shape of one of the ancient battle-axes, together with the shirt of mail, which, fitting loosely, they could throw over their backs at a short notice in case of a sudden attack; it was usually made of thick leather, and sword-proof.

Next we will consider the castle itself, which appears one of the best-contrived plans one could conceive for a castle of strength and defence. To comprehend the design of the engraver, we must remember the ancient way of representing distance was by ascending lines; and the more distant they intended to represent anything, the higher they placed it in their pictures. The same method considered here induces me to think that this castle, which was an octagon, had seven courts with strong battlements surrounding it, and was built after the plan of a spider's web. It had also a tower at each angle, there being sixteen towers without the castle or citadel, and appears the completest plan for a castle I have ever seen; for if either of the courts was scaled and taken, the soldiers in the gallery above would so annoy them with their arrows and other missile weapons that they could not continue long in possession; and still above that was another gallery, which could command the whole.

This castle of Sherborne was one of those three masterpieces of

* It is very extraordinary that Camden, who had the living of Ilfracombe (a prebendal stall in this church) for the last thirty years of his life, should not have informed himself thoroughly on this subject.

fortification built by Roger, Bishop of Old Sarum—so strong, it is said, that they were the wonder of the world; and it was thought, before the invention of gunpowder, they never could have been taken by any human force. It is also curious to remark the eight turrets on the top of the castle itself, built to represent earls' coronets and bishops' mitres, two and two alternately, Roger being Earl of Salisbury as well as bishop; and in this method we may suppose he built all his castles. I wish any of your correspondents could inform me if there is any drawing extant of the castle of Devizes.

How this curious brass plate escaped destruction so many years is wonderful, especially when we observe that this cathedral has been pillaged of above a hundred inscriptive plates of brass—in short, of every one except this—and one of Edmund Ghest, buried in Henry VIII.'s time; but we find, by an inscription on the wall above it, that these two once lay in the choir, probably under the pulpit, or in some covered place, where they might be overlooked; and when the choir was first paved with black and white marble, a Mr. Tounson was at the expense of moving them to their present situation, anno 1684.

P. Q.

[1788, *Part I.*, pp. 224, 225.]

The beautiful carved chimney-piece (Plate III.) was lately discovered at Salisbury behind some old wainscoting when clearing away the old buildings for the site of the new Council-house, and must be at least 300 years old. The style of the architecture is Gothic, and very much resembles the ornaments of the Close Gate on the side towards High Street, which is supposed to have been built soon after the cathedral. The carving of this chimney-piece is divided into four compartments, each of which has in the centre a shield charged with sundry devices—first, a cipher of H. S.,* probably the initials of the person's name for whom it was executed. The second is in Old English characters, *ihc*, with a stroke of abbreviation over it. . . . The third is the figure of a dolphin. What this alludes to is not known. It is probable that either this figure gave name to the Dolphin-house adjoining, which might once have been a great tavern, or else formerly, when the old Guildhall was used for the Corporation, there was adjoining to it a capital house of entertainment, to supply the body corporate with some of the good things of this life, in which they delight, and in which there might have been a large, pleasant room, according to the taste of those days, with a handsome carved chimney-piece, on which the landlord chose to have several emblematical representations, which in those days might have furnished much entertainment to his guests, and given

* H. S. was probably placed as the initials of Henry Surridge, who was Mayor of Sarum in 1509, and the dolphin was perhaps his crest.—ED.

an additional zest to their repast. The fourth emblem I am at a loss to make out. Some think it an emblem of the Trinity; others a ship mark.* Again, others suppose a great merchant lived here, that the dolphin was an emblem of his ship sailing over the main, and that this fourth emblem was the mark or seal he made use of in his transactions of business. However, the discussion of this point must be left to wiser heads than mine to determine.

Other conjectures are that this house, standing in the ancient fish-market, was the dwelling of an eminent fishmonger, as in Catholic times this trade was of consequence. B. A.

[1789, *Part II.*, p. 1002.]

In Plate III., Fig. 1, there is an inscription on the second buttress from the termination of the choir of Salisbury Cathedral, discovered on pulling down the south porch. The drawing was taken by Mr. Schnebbelie, August 22, 1789. J. S.

[1790, *Part II.*, p. 692.]

I present you with a prospect of Salisbury (see Plate II.) from Clarendon Park, by a young gentleman of that city. The chief objects are the cathedral and belfry, which last edifice (during the Civil Wars a garrison for the Parliament army) is now about to be taken down, and, when done, will give a beautiful view of the church from the High Street. . . .

You have also, in the same Plate, a sketch of the old Council-house in Sarum in the state it appeared before the fire which happened in November, 1780. It was built in Queen Elizabeth's reign, on the site where an elm-tree stood. A new building for the Corporation is erecting (the plan by the late Sir Robert Taylor) at the expense of the Earl of Radnor, the Recorder, a nobleman whose independent conduct in Parliament and exemplary behaviour in private life have gained him the esteem of all ranks. Edward Poore, Esq., is the Law-Recorder, a gentleman of urbanity, and of an ancient family in the neighbourhood. Mr. Hussey, one of its members, should not go without due praise for many essential services to the town. By his means, and at his cost, the old gate was removed in Castle Street, long considered as a nuisance, and now makes a pleasant opening to the Market Place. In short, a general spirit of reform seems to have pervaded the city; and, if the navigation takes place which is in contemplation, and much wished for by the mercantile part of the inhabitants as well as the respectable gentry residing there, it will place Salisbury on a par with most other cities.

As a postscript to this hasty account, allow me to say that the

* It is the most common of all marks—a merchant's mark.—Ed.

College, the seat of Henry Penruddocke Wyndham, Esq., has had great additions made to it, and is seen to good effect as you approach the town from the London road. The Infirmary is likewise a handsome pile, and well supported by voluntary contributions. The medical gentlemen who give their attendance are deservedly high in their profession—Dr. Grove as physician, and Mr. White as surgeon, nephew to the ingenious clergyman of that name, who lately published the “Natural History of Selborne.” J. ELDETON.

[1792, *Part II.*, pp. 817, 818.]

On the west side of the grand cross in Salisbury Cathedral, towards the north porch, on a large statuary marble slab, crowned with a pediment, is the follow inscription (Plate III., Fig. 2):

“In this cathedral are interred the remains of JAMES HARRIS, of this Close, esq., son of Thomas Harris, of Orcheston St. George, in this county, who died in 1679, aged 74 years. He married Gertrude, daughter of Robert Tounson, bishop of that diocese, who died 1678, aged 86 years.”

“Of JOAN, daughter of Sir Wadham Wyndham, of Wyndham Orchard, in the county of Somerset, and wife of the above Thomas Harris. She died 1734, aged 84 years.”

“Of JAMES HARRIS, esq., of this close, son of the above Thomas Harris, and Joan, his wife. He died in 1731, aged 57 years.”

“Of the Right Hon. Lady ELIZABETH HARRIS, third daughter of Anthony, second Earl of Shaftesbury, and wife of the above James Harris. She died in 1743, aged 62 years.”

“Of ELIZABETH HARRIS, daughter of John Clark, of Sandford, in the county of Somerset, esq., and wife of James Harris, esq., of this close, to whom a monument is erected near this spot. She died 16th Oct., 1781, aged 59 years.”

“Of ELIZABETH HARRIS, daughter of the last-mentioned Elizabeth and James Harris. She died the 13th April, 1749, aged one year and nine months.”

“Of JOHN THOMAS HARRIS, son of the last-mentioned James and Elizabeth Harris. He died the ninth December, 1752, aged one year five months.”

“Of THOMAS HARRIS, esq., Master in Chancery, brother to the last-mentioned James Harris. He died the 21st February, 1785, aged 73.”

On the next pier to the other inscription, towards the north, is a beautiful monument, designed and erected by that capital artist, Bacon. It is of a pyramidal form; the background is of statuary marble, supported by a tablet with a neat cornice on trusses, and over that, on a plinth, represents one of the Muses, with a medallion of Mr. Harris, the right hand holding a scroll inscribed:

TO ΦPONEIN MONON ΑΓΑΘΟΝ. TO Δ'ΑΦPONEIN ΚΑΚΟΝ.

On the tablet:

“M.S., JACOBI HARRIS, Salisburiensis, viri boni et docti, Græcarum literarum præcipuè periti, cujus opera accuratissima de artibus elegantioribus, de grammaticâ, de logicâ, de ethicâ, stylo brevi, limato, simplici, sui more Aristotelis, conscripta, posterì laudabunt ultimi; studiis severioribus addictus, communis

tamen vitæ officia, et omnia patris, mariti, civis, senatoris, munia et implevit, et ornavit. Obiit xxii die Decembris, MDCCLXXX. anno ætatis LXXII."

J. SCHNEBBELIE.

[1792, *Part II.*, pp. 1089, 1090.]

In the chapel in Salisbury Cathedral built by the Beauchamp family of Powyk, and over which we still see the arms of the Beauchamps and St. Amands, and Ferrers of Groby, I observe in one corner a monument in alabaster, in good preservation, which is supposed to be of the famous Sir John Cheyney, who fought hand to hand with Richard III. at the Battle of Bosworth. He is here represented as a person of great strength and bone, and a large man; and it is no small proof of the courage and strength of Richard, who was built of small stature, that he should fell such a man with one of his strokes to the ground, as Dugdale relates that he did. I wish to find out whether it is really meant for him, and would request a correspondent to give his arms, as also to account for his being buried with the Beauchamps, as I can trace no direct affinity. The insignia of the Garter are round his neck, and the George appendant at the breast. He was ennobled 3 Henry VII., and also created by him K.G.

Dugdale says Sir John Cheyney's mother was sister to Margaret, Duchess of Somerset; if so, the last Beauchamp of Bletso was his uncle; but the Peerage adds that she was the daughter and heir of Sir Robert de Shottesbroke.

Robert, Lord Willoughby de Broke, descended from the Cheney of Broke, in Wiltshire, married Elizabeth Beauchamp, eldest daughter and co-heir of Lord Beauchamp of Powyk; but neither does this relate to Sir John Cheney, who, I believe, never lived at Broke. Query whether he did not live at Pynne, or Penn, near Mere.

P. Q.

[1801, *Part I.*, p. 25.]

The enclosed rough sketches (Figs. 4, 5) are taken from a painted window in the hall of a gentleman's house in Salisbury, where there are many others, which, upon some future day, I shall beg the favour of insertion in your Magazine for explanation. There are various opinions afloat relative to the former owners of this ancient mansion, but they all seem to agree that it was possessed by some noble family. If some of your heraldic friends will favour me with the names of the families to whom these coats of arms belong, it may throw some light upon it.

W. F.

[1804, *Part II.*, pp. 1099, 1100.]

Fox having asserted that an Earl of Salisbury, a friend of Wickliffe's, was enjoined by Bishop Ergam, by way of penance, to erect in Salisbury a cross of stone, on which all the story of the matter was to

be written, Mr. Wensey, in a communication to the Society of Antiquaries, inserted in their "*Archæologia*," ix., p. 374, ascribes, by a long deduction, the erection of the Poultry cross at Salisbury to John de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, in the reign of Richard II.* Had he consulted Walsingham's "*History of England*," in the reign of that king, p. 246, he would have seen that it was "a knight of the county of Wiltshire, near Salisbury, of the name and surname of Lawrence de St. Martino," who, for having received from his parish priest, on Easter Eve, the Sacrament bread, carried it home and ate it at his supper, in defiance of the priest's remonstrance, who, on being informed of the particulars by his servants, accused him to the Bishop (Ralph Ergam), who, with his clergy, having convinced the knight of his error, condemned him to erect, in a public place in Salisbury, a stone cross, whereon the whole history of this affair should be inscribed ('in qua per ordinem tota series hujus rei sculperetur') and to come ('singulis feriis sextis') every Saturday in his life, and there kneeling in his shirt ('interula') and breeches, confess the sin of the whole proceeding publicly, and in due order ('per ordinem'), beside other penances public and private too long to repeat." Such is the plain and simple narrative of the old historian; for want of consulting which, John de Montacute, nephew and heir to the then Earl of Salisbury, who had shown his Wickliffism in a different way and place, is made to erect the centre pillar of great Poultry cross, which I rather incline to believe was an especial stone cross which probably perished long before the erection of the Poultry cross, if indeed it were not in his own parish. If there is any trace of a superscription on the sides of this centre pillar, it would be worth while to trace it. But the conformity to the market-crosses at Chichester, Wells, Sherborne, etc., to this at Salisbury incline me rather to think them all nearly coeval. D. H.

[1805, *Part I.*, p. 402.]

In answer to D. H. the writer of the communication referred to is not ignorant that Walsingham attributes the erection of the Salisbury cross to Lawrence de St. Martin, while Fox ascribes it to an Earl of Salisbury. The original words of Fox are these:

"This Wickliffe, albeit in his life-time he had many grievous enemies, yet there was none so cruel as the clergy itself; yet notwithstanding, he had many good friends; men not only of the meaner sort, but also of nobility; among whom these men were to be numbered: John Cleubon, Lewis Clifford, Richard Sturie or

* An old gentleman told Mr. Cooper that it was by a nobleman of the name of Stourton.

† According to the definition of Brito, cited by Du Cange, these should be every Saturday. "*Dicimus primam seriam; sc. diem dominicam, secundam, tertiam, quartam, quintam, sextam, Sabbatum.*"

Sturmev, T. Latimer, W. Nevill, John Montague, who plucked down all the images in his own chapel.

"Besides all these there was an Earl of Salisbury, who, for contempt in him noted towards the Sacrament, in carrying it home to his house, was enjoined, by R. Ergham, Bishop of S., to make in Salisbury a cross of stone, in which all the story of the matter should be written, and he, every Friday during his life, to come to the cross barefooted and bareheaded in his shirt, and there kneeling, to do penance for his fact."

This is taken from the black-letter edition of 1576; in the margin of which it is again stated to be the penance of the Earl of Salisbury.

Whether Walsingham or he be right is a question not for me to settle. "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?"

"Non nostrum inter vos tantas componere lites."

It is possible he might have copied it from Walsingham, and substituted, by mistake, the word "earl" for "knight"; for Laurentius de St. Martine was a knight of the shire, and member for the county 34 Edward III., and the family residence was at Wardour Castle (so nobly defended in aftertimes by Blanch, Countess of Arundel).

Fox, however, gives his authority, "Ex Chron. mon. D. Albani in vita Ric. II." This is nearly the title of Walsingham's book; but it is possible other monks may have written chronicles of the monastery of St. Alban's, for it is known that Polidore Vergil, who wrote his history about the same time, and died in 1555, destroyed a vast number of old chronicles and ancient manuscripts.

With respect to the cross known by the name of the Poultry cross, I conceive it to be the cross in question; and that the story of the matter might well have been written thereon, as the centre pillar has six sides facing each open part of the arches, and the figure of angels, as if supporting a tablet, seems to show where the inscription probably was; though it is not unlikely that when the penance ceased, and the parties were no more, the family had interest enough to remove what they must have considered a reflection.

See the "Archæologia," vol. ix., p. 373. Walsingham relates that this Lawrence de St. Martin took home the consecrated bread, and ate part of it with oysters, and part with onions, and the rest he gulped down with wine, and adds that he was a man of family.

H. W.

[1818, *Part I.*, p. 393.]

I send you a drawing (see Plate I., Fig. 1) of the east end of the chapel and part of the Hospital of St. Nicholas, the College de Vaux, and Harnham Bridge, forming part of the Liberty of the Close, of which the following account is given in the Topographical account of Wiltshire:

"The Hospital of St. Nicholas was founded, at the instance of

Bishop Poore, by William Longspée, the sixth Earl of Salisbury, as an atonement for an insult offered by him to the Bishop. It was endowed with lands and cattle by Ela, his Countess, and escaped suppression at the Reformation, by the art of the masters, who concealed their records from the Commissioners. They obtained a new Charter from James the First; and the revenues now support six poor men, and as many women, together with a Master and Chaplain.

"Harnham Bridge, over the Willey, was built by virtue of a privilege obtained by Bishop Poore, of Henry the Third, when New Sarum was incorporated. Accordingly his successor, Bishop Bingham, in 1245, built this Bridge; and in 1260, the College de Vaux was founded by Bishop Bridport, for the residence of several scholars who had retired hither on account of some disturbances at Oxford. This they continued to do in Leland's time, who says, 'Part remain in the College at Saresbyri, and have two Chaplains to serve the Church there dedicated to St. Nicholas, the residue study at Oxford.'"

The other drawing (Fig. 2) is an exact representation of a curious Gothic structure in the City of New Sarum, now used as a poultry market, which Mr. Wansey, in his paper on the stone crosses of Salisbury, in the "*Archæologia*," supposes must be the cross referred to in the following passage of the chronicle of the Monastery of St. Alban's:

"Among the friends of Wickcliff was an Earl of Salisbury, who for contempt noted in him towards the Sacrament, in carrying it home to his house, was enjoined by Ralph Ergham, Bishop of Salisbury, to make in Salisbury a Cross of Stone, on which all the story of the matter should be written, and he, every Friday during his life, to come to the Cross bare-footed and bare-headed in his shirt, and then upon his knees to do penance for the fact."

The tower of the fine and venerable Parish Church of St. Thomas is seen rising over the old houses in the background, which are, perhaps, among the most ancient now standing in the city. I do not know if that in the High Street, formerly the George Inn, one in St. Anne's Street, or the City Workhouse, Crane Street (which latter appears to have been a religious house), have ever been noticed in your miscellany; or if drawings of them, from sketches taken on the spot, would be acceptable?

E. W.

[1818, *Part II.*, p. 306.]

I send you an exact drawing of some ornamented stones (Figs. 14, 15, 16, 17) in the wall on the eastern side of the close. There are many more, but these are the most remarkable specimens. This part of the wall is ancient, and it is not unlikely that it was built with materials brought from Old Sarum. There are some ornamented stones also in the gate dividing the close from the High Street.

E. W.

[1819, *Part II.*, p. 305.]

At the time of the great alterations made in Salisbury Cathedral in 1790 or thereabouts it was judged expedient, in order to obtain a better view of the cathedral, to remove an ancient building, originally a bell-tower. As the splendid accounts of Salisbury recently published by Messrs. Dodsworth and Britton contain no representation or account of this building, I beg you to preserve a slight view of it, taken about 1787 (see Plate II.). It stood on the north-west side of the cathedral.

B.

[1823, *Part II.*, p. 414.]

A splendid specimen of monumental art, executed by the inimitable Chantrey, has been lately erected in this cathedral to the memory of that eminent and estimable nobleman the late Earl of Malmesbury. To the Honourable Miss Robinson, the affectionate sister of the departed, is the honour due of having raised this memento of integrity, this labour of love; and to her ought the "city's eye" to be directed in gratitude for this simple and exquisite addition to its former glories.

[1830, *Part I.*, pp. 406-409.]

It is not my purpose to enter into a description of Salisbury Cathedral, or to detail its architectural features. . . . With regard to the never-to-be-forgotten alterations of the cathedral by Wyatt, under the auspices of Bishop Barrington, but one opinion is entertained at present; even the cicerone of the place points out the strange discrepancies in the alterations.

The most violent alteration which the building has suffered was occasioned by the addition of the Lady Chapel to the choir, forming a chancel in the parochial church style. Now, however ignorant the architect Wyatt might have been of the ancient arrangement of ecclesiastical buildings (and ignorant enough in this respect he was), yet a dignitary of the Church of England must have known that the choir of a cathedral answered to the chancel of a parochial church; the addition, therefore, of a chancel to a choir, it is evident, was an innovation at once inconsistent and useless. At the present time this discrepancy is properly recognised, another altar having been placed on or near the site of the ancient one, at which the communion service is performed, the altar at the end of the Lady Chapel being in consequence disused. Here, then, one of the most vaunted, and at the same time most injudicious, alterations has been found to be no improvement, and propriety has dictated the restoration of the choir to something like its former state. To complete this desirable change, a low screen of stone* should be erected from pillar to

* A design for a screen by Mr. Buckler has been engraved, and is appended to Cassan's "Lives of the Bishops of Salisbury."—Ed.

pillar, and then the choir of Salisbury will once more assume a cathedral-like appearance. The removal of the ugly stained glass which so completely disfigures the Lady Chapel, and the substitution of a design of mosaic work in cheerful and lively colours, would complete the improvement in this quarter. A throne, which might be designed after the spire of the cathedral, and an entire new set of stalls in oak it is to be hoped will one day supply the place of the miserable woodwork which defaces the choir. The design of the present throne must have been suggested by a tile-kiln; the stalls are perfectly carpenter's Gothic.

The conversion of the nave into a museum of monuments would, if it had happened about the same period in a neighbouring country, have caused the press to teem with denunciations against infidels and barbarians. Here an exemplary prelate of the Church of England is seduced by a bad taste into a measure fraught with the same evils, and, as if the architect was determined that his aid should not be wanting to complete the ruin, he either patched the canopy of one monument to the pedestal of another, or formed an altar tomb out of various fragments of canopies, jumbling ornaments together without reference to their age or similarity, and this ridiculous patchwork still exists. Let us hope that the time is not far distant when, for the credit of English taste and English science, the discordant parts will give way to something like a uniform design, and a restoration, as far as is practicable, of the different parts to more appropriate situations will be effected.

In the boundary wall of the bishop's garden are numerous sculptured stones, some of which have been already engraved in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1818, part ii., p. 306.† As these carvings are anterior to the date of the present city, it must be presumed that they formed part of the materials of the ancient cathedral of Old Sarum, and were probably transported hither when Bishop Poore translated from that church the tombs and remains of Norman Bishops Osmond, Roger, and Josceline in 1226. The good taste of the ancient builders is manifested by their placing the sculptured face of the stone outwards.

In Salisbury are three handsome parish churches of ancient date, dedicated to St. Martin, St. Edmund, and St. Thomas of Canterbury, which have been but little noticed. The description will probably be acceptable.

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH

is situated in the eastern part of the town. The plan consists of a nave and side aisles, a chancel, and a square tower at the western

* *Anti*, p. 320.

end of the south aisle. The architecture is Pointed. The body of the church appears to have been erected about the middle of the fourteenth century. The steeple and chancel are older than the rest of the building. The former consists of a square tower with lancet windows, finished with a parapet and coping, and surmounted by a well-proportioned octangular stone spire. It is evidently coeval with the cathedral, and was probably erected by the same architect. The ascent to the top stone is effected by the same means as the cathedral spire—internally to about three-fourths of the height, where a small door opens, and the remainder is ascended by means of iron handles fixed into the stone-work.

The chancel has lancet lights in its side walls, and a handsome traceried window of a later period in the west end. In the western porch is a low arched monument of considerable antiquity, but much obscured by whitewash. It is, I believe, sometimes supposed that persons buried in the church porch have died under sentence of excommunication; there appears to be no authority for this conjecture. Both the porches of Chichester Cathedral contain monuments which, occurring so frequently, seem to negative the supposition.

The columns dividing the nave and aisles are clustered and surmounted by pointed arches; and between the nave and chancel is a low segmental arch. Over this is the decalogue, and the arms of Queen Elizabeth and Charles I. At the altar, in conformity with the modern practice, the decalogue is again repeated.*

In the chancel are some old seats. The ceiling is oak, being a pointed vault, ribbed and panelled with bosses at the intersections, and sustained on corbels, ornamented with figures of angels. The three aisles are alike in height and decoration. The font is elevated on a platform in the south aisle; it is of an octagonal form, of large dimensions, and the basin is sustained on eight columns. The pews are old, probably about the period of the Reformation.

In a dark corner of the church stands a curious brass reading-desk, sustained on an eagle, now tastelessly thrown by as useless.

The church has a western gallery, in which is the organ.

In the churchyard, southward of the church, are two stone coffins, one of which is represented in the accompanying woodcut.

The instrument at the side of the cross (see the woodcut) is similar to one represented in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1759, p. 4, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Green of Lichfield, which produced some learned remarks from Dr. Pegge (*ibid.*, p. 65); the latter antiquary imagined this instrument to be the *ascia* of the Romans, though he was unable to account for its existence on the tomb of a Christian priest, fabricated in an age which did not deal in heathen allegories

* See an article on this subject in *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1827, part i., p. 212.

or hieroglyphics, like the absurd monuments of the present day. In the present instance, the knife has an inscription; the letters given in the cut are all that can be made out.

On the north side of the church is the base and shaft of a stone cross.

On a gravestone in this churchyard was chalked the lines indicating the old game of "the Nine men's Morris," and the same was cut in the stone coping of the wall of the close, which show that this ancient pastime is still in common use in this part of the country. The form of the table or board is given in Strutt's "Sports and Pastimes," edition 1830, p. 317, and in Hone's "Every-day Book," vol. ii., p. 983, and in page 1661 are some observations on this ancient rustic game.

ST. EDMUND'S CHURCH.

This is a regular and elegant building, erected in the latter part of the fourteenth century. It has a centre and side aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the west end; the latter is square in plan, lofty, and finished with a modern battlement, and has pinnacles at the angles. An inscription over the door records the destruction, by accident, and the rebuilding of the tower, which can only be reconciled with the present appearance of the structure, by supposing that it originally had a spire like St. Martin's, and that a portion of the steeple only fell down, bringing with it the battlement, which, with the pinnacles, was the only part that was rebuilt. The windows of the church have beautiful tracery of a regular pattern, with quatrefoil and upright divisions. In the south aisle are five windows, all alike in design, with buttresses attached to the piers. The north aisle is similar, but has a large attached chapel, which is modernized into a vestry-room, and a private gallery above. The chancel has been rebuilt in a very bad style. The columns which separate the aisles of the interior of the church are clustered, the arches of the equilateral proportion. This church has internally been modernized to a greater degree than either of the others, having probably been injured by the fall of the steeple. The ceiling is plastered without ornament. The chancel is Gothicised, and has seats in it. The east window contains "the Ascension" in painted glass, by Egginton, the gift of Mr. Whitechurch, brewer. The figure of our Saviour much resembles that in the east window of St. Mary's Church, Bryanstone Square. This church contained the window which excited the ire of the puritanical Recorder Sherfield; either his fanatical zeal must have completely effected his purpose, or, what is equally probable, modern artizans have completely removed every fragment of the offensive window. The font is modern and uninteresting, as is also the pulpit. The church has a good organ. There are no ancient monuments. The

churchyard is spacious and pleasant, and is planted with rows of lime-trees.

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH

is situated in the centre of the city. It is a large and magnificent building, consisting of a nave and chancel, with their respective aisles, and a square tower attached to the south aisle, surmounted by a dwarf spire of lead. The west window is large and grand, and rich in mullions; but the church cannot be seen to advantage, being as much enclosed as the London churches. By the side of the west door is an odd monument in wood, which would almost mislead the spectator into a belief of a superior antiquity than it possesses.

The architecture of the interior is very beautiful; the pillars are clustered, and support pointed arches, from the archivolts of which spring perpendicular mullions, which are carried up the spandrels, and continued into the windows of the clerestory. This mode of decoration gives the building an air of loftiness, and has a pleasing effect; in the same style is the church of St. Mary Redcliffe at Bristol. The capitals of the columns of the nave are richly sculptured with leaves and foliage, with animals interspersed.

The chancel is also separated from its aisles by arches on clustered columns, but the architecture is more plain than the nave.

The original timber roof remains in a high state of preservation; the beams are richly carved, and are ornamented with upright divisions, the whole truss disposed so as to form a low pointed arch, with pierced spandrels. This elegant roof has happily escaped both paint and whitewash. The roofs of the aisles are low, and also constructed of timber; they are panelled in a common design, and have been handsomely painted.

The roof of the chancel is plainer, but the beams rest on angels.

The east window is destroyed or concealed, and in its place is a large painting of the Transfiguration, by a native artist—an attempted improvement of Raphael's inimitable picture; the stiff red-skinned figures of the group would only be acknowledged by a sign-painter.

The eastern ends of the aisles are partitioned by screens into chapels: the northern one is exceedingly rich, and owes its decorations to the piety of a merchant, whose tomb, without an inscription, stands in the centre. It is an altar tomb, with his mark several times repeated. The ceiling is of the same design as the rest of the aisles, but is painted in chequers, black, white, and red, and is more perfect. Much painted glass in fragments remain in the window, with the mark of the founder.

A large altar tomb on the north side of the chancel is said to belong to the Duke of Buckingham, beheaded in pursuance of the sentence Richard III. so laconically gives by Shakespeare:

“Off with his head—so much for Buckingham.”

The south chancel has a modern altar-screen, and was formerly used for the Sacrament. In this chancel or chapel are the monuments of the Eyre family, and in the east window are fragments of painted glass, with the before-mentioned merchant's mark.

Some old stalls with misereres remain in the chancel. The font is mean. The pulpit is old, but the ancient and curious reading-desk of wood, sustained on a pillar, is tastelessly thrown aside.

The church is singular in possessing galleries of considerable antiquity, situated in the north and south aisles. That in the latter situation is decorated with curious praying figures of oak applied as cariatides, and is probably as old as Queen Elizabeth's time, a conjecture which is corroborated by her arms remaining in the church. This church possesses an organ. E. I. C.

[1830, *Part II.*, p. 9.]

The accompanying plate represents an altar-screen for Salisbury Cathedral, designed by Mr. Buckler. We have been favoured with the engraving by that constant patron of art and preserver of our national antiquities, Sir R. C. Hoare, Bart.

In consequence of the distance of the altar from the choir, which in the alterations effected by Wyatt was removed to the extremity of the Lady Chapel, the Communion Service is now read at a temporary altar placed within the centre arch at the eastern end of the choir.* This arrangement naturally points to the necessity of erecting an altar-screen on or adjacent to the site of the original one, and which, if executed, it is desirable should still admit of a view of the Lady Chapel from the choir of the cathedral, to accomplish which was the object of the removal of the original one.

Mr. Britton,† though an eulogist of the alterations, suggests an introduction of this kind, and few who have seen the cathedral in its present state can avoid arriving at a similar conclusion.

Mr. Buckler's design is formed with the view of concealing as little of the architecture at the eastern end of the church as possible. It is composed of a low screen of stone, with simple but appropriate ornaments in the general style of the cathedral. It will be observed that whilst it is sufficiently high to form an appropriate background to the altar, it does not obscure the vaulting and pillars of the matchless Lady Chapel. A partial view thus obtained will add to the effect of this beautiful portion of the building, and by separating it from the rest of the church, it will be brought to a conformity with the ancient cathedral arrangement. The screen is also judiciously contrived to fill up the intercolumniations without concealing the bases or any part of the shafts of the pillars of the three fine arches which separate the choir from the Lady Chapel.

The design appears to have been taken from a row of niches in

* *Anti.*, pp. 321, 322.

† "Salisbury Cathedral," p. 80.

the central division of the west front, immediately above the principal entrance. The embattled finish is, however, not in strict accordance with the architecture of the cathedral, battlements never being met with in buildings of a period so early, except in cases of additions to the original design; those which finish the western front being evidently the work of a period subsequent to the erection of the main building. With this exception, we award our approval of the design, and add our wish that so obvious an improvement may be speedily carried into effect.

[1833, *Part I.*, pp. 297, 298.]

I will now lay before your readers what I deem to be a tolerably correct representation of the wooden table in the chapter-house of Salisbury Cathedral, and I dare say they will be pleased to possess the view of this ancient and beautiful specimen of furniture, which is no longer to be seen as it appeared in 1817, when the drawing was made for the collections of Thomas Lister Parker, Esq., who has kindly allowed it to be copied for publication. I have not seen the table since its renovation, and I was so well satisfied with the ancient appearance of the relic, which bore indubitable signs of having been formed and fashioned nearly six centuries ago, and of having been exposed during the last half of that period to needless injury, without any attempt having been made to supply the deficiencies either of time or violence; in fine, I was so well pleased with this estimable work of antiquity that I feel no inclination to examine it in its present garbled state. I am not prepared to say anything either of the merits or demerits of the copy; I hope there are sufficient remains of the old design to prove the correctness of the new members. . . . The table, it seems, has suffered more than was necessary and more than was intended by the Chapter, through the officiousness of the carpenter. I may be allowed to express my regret at this circumstance, because I know from actual observation that the massy top of the table needed very little repair, and that its entire removal was as unnecessary as the removal of the table altogether would have been an instance of wanton mischief. The pencil must not be allowed to supersede the necessity of the pen in the description of this table. Among the component parts of the design are two rings; that for the plinth measures $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad by 3 inches deep; the other forms the top, and is $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep, with a chamfered edge. The height between these rings is $28\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The supports are eight jambs, having detached columns $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, with capitals, bases, and bands of the finest detail. There are also eight open arches of graceful form, measuring $12\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide, and the jambs $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches. I may add that it had been wholly painted and gilt. The mutilated top, though removed, has not been destroyed, and Mr. Bowles has laudably given direc-

tions for the preservation of the fragments. He may perhaps entertain the idea of displacing the carpenter's trim board and of restoring the original pieces to their ancient situation. . . .

As the handsome old chair which once accompanied the table in the chapter-house of Salisbury Cathedral escaped the observation of the "Minimist," the Dean and Chapter have escaped his weighty censures for the care they have long since taken to secure it from all chance of further injury. I cannot guess what the operations of twelve or fourteen years upon a piece of wooden furniture in an undisturbed resting-place, perhaps not quite impervious to moisture, may have been ; but I may fairly conclude that a description of it, from a sketch taken in 1810, will prove valuable to antiquaries. It was in figure like a stall with a movable seat, and carved knobs, solid back, and plain top and sides. In point of antiquity it is full two centuries younger than the table, and twenty-three years ago showed no material injury.

[1836, *Part I.*, p. 483.]

The Rev. W. L. Bowles, who, though best known as a poet, is scarcely less estimable as a sincere and liberal friend of our scriptural Church, has lately erected, at his own expense, in the south-east transept of Salisbury Cathedral, two monumental tablets to the memory of those immortal champions of the Church of England, the learned Hooker and the apostolic Chillingworth. The design and execution confer great credit on the sculptor, Mr. Osmond, of that city. The following are the inscriptions :

" 'The Bible is the Religion of Protestants.'

"To the Memory of WILLIAM CHILLINGWORTH, the immortal Author of the words inscribed above, and formerly Chancellor of this Church, who, after he had confuted by irresistible force of reasoning the arguments, and exposed the sophistries, of the most acute among the writers of the Church of Rome, was buried at Chichester, without the Funeral Service of our Liturgy, A.D. 1643.

"Christian charity shrinks from a recital of the indignities offered to his remains by one of the Leaders of that Genevan School of Divinity, which proscribed the use of the Book of Common Prayer, destroyed Episcopacy, and prostrated for a season the Established Religion of this Kingdom.

"This Tablet is placed in his own Cathedral, in reverence to so great and good a Man, by WILLIAM LISLE BOWLES, Canon Residentiary, A.D. 1836."

"To the Memory of RICHARD HOOKER, Prebendary of this Cathedral, and Author of the Book entitled 'Ecclesiastical Polity,' Who, exhibiting in his writings the profoundness of a Scholar, and in his life the holy simplicity of an Apostle, successfully vindicated the forms and ordinances of the Episcopal Church of this Nation, and her primitive usage of the sweetest Songs of Sion, Anthems and Antiphonal Harmonies, adapted to the Words of the inspired Psalmist. He died A.D. 1600.

"This tribute of respect and veneration for so great a name is offered here by W. L. BOWLES, Canon Residentiary, 1836."

We are gratified to hear that this liberal example of the amiable "Bard of Bremhill" is about to be followed by the venerable Diocesan and the Dean and Chapter, in the erection of a monument to the exemplary Bishop Jewell, so deservedly celebrated throughout Europe for learning and abilities, who built the library over the east cloister at Salisbury, and was buried in the choir of the Cathedral.*

Savernake.

[1763, p. 324.]

Savernake Forest, in Wiltshire, is situated to the south-east of Marlborough, and to the north of the famous ditch called Wansdike, supposed to have been the boundary between the kingdoms of Wessex and Mercia. The family of the Esturmies, or Sturmies (whose patriarch, Richard, held lands in the counties of Hants and Wilts, in capite, of William the Conqueror), were hereditary bailiffs and keepers of it from Henry II.'s reign, until about the end of the fourteenth century, when it and several large estates, went in marriage with Maud, daughter and co-heir of Sir William Esturmy, of Chadham and Wolfhall, to Roger Seymour, grandfather of John, the great-grandfather of Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, and Protector of England, in 1547, in whose male line they continued till 1671, when they devolved on Elizabeth, daughter of Henry, Lord Beauchamp, and sister and heir of her brother, W. Seymour, Duke of Somerset, the sixth in descent from the Protector. The said Elizabeth, in 1676, wedded Thomas Lord Bruce, afterwards second Earl of Aylesbury, whose son, Charles, the last Earl, left the Forest, and many considerable estates, at his death, February 10, 1746-47, to his nephew, Thomas Bruce Brudenel, the present Lord Bruce. This forest, said to be the only one in England in the possession of a subject, with the adjoining park of Tottenham, is about twelve miles in circumference, plentifully flocked with red and fallow deer, and ornamented with sundry delightful walks and vistas, cut through its woods and coppices, eight of which meet in a spacious opening about the middle of it, where Earl Charles intended an octagon tower, and near which, about 200 years ago, stood a gibbet, with a pair of ram's horns affixed to the top of it, on which was hanged a notorious sheep-stealer, called Brathwate, from the place of his nativity in Cumberland. The avenue, planted in clumps, fronting Tottenham House, his lordship's seat, is noble and magnificent, and might be reckoned complete if a stately obelisk was erected on its summit. That house was built, under the direction of the late Earl

* A second window of a beautiful mosaic pattern has lately been set up at the end of the south-west transept, from the stained-glass manufactory of Mr. Beare, of the High Street, Salisbury; and another, to complete the tier, is in course of preparation by the same able artist. Towards the expense of their erection the Marquess of Lansdowne and the Rev. Canon Bowles have each subscribed £100.

of Burlington, on the site of a palace which was burned by the rebels in the reign of Charles I., but is too low situated; however, the gardens are elegantly designed, and very pleasant. This forest is very convenient for the neighbouring farmers, who have a right of pasturage in it; but is indifferently supplied with water; and the deer are very troublesome to the cornfields.

[1802, *Part I.*, p. 497.]

Annexed is a drawing of an ancient oak-tree in the forest of Savernake, near Marlborough, in Wiltshire, the property of the Earl of Ailesbury, called, in the dialect of the common people of the county, Duke's "vant," who also pronounce "font" in the same manner. Yet, after the most diligent inquiry, I find no testimony to corroborate such etymology, but rather suppose it a corruption of "vaunt," *i.e.*, the boast, or glory, of the Duke. It probably received this denomination about the beginning of the reign of Edward VI., when it belonged to the great Sir Edward Seymour, first Duke of Somerset, whose vaunt and glory it might well be, as, from its stupendous bulk, it must long have been the admiration and wonder of the neighbourhood.

The dimensions of this vast tree are 30 feet in circumference on the outside, and 20 feet round the hollow within, where a young tree was once planted which grew for some time, but is now gone.

This long-time pride of the forest stands near the highway leading from Marlborough to Great Bedwin, about half a mile from the great London and Bath road, on the northern boundary of the parish of Burbage; and I remember, on a perambulation round the boundaries of that parish about forty years ago, being one of twenty boys who were shut up together in the concavity; and also that a band of music, consisting of a violin, hautboy, and bassoon, played several tunes in it. There was then a door hung to it, which shut or locked occasionally. At that time some of the eldest men present observed that it had been in the same decayed state time immemorial—a cogent argument, if any were wanting, of the extreme great age of this verdant ruin, which, having remained in the same condition upwards of a hundred years, thus certainly proved, may reasonably be conjectured to have been much longer in its gradual decline. And if, according to the commonly-received opinion, the periods of growth, perfection, and decline of the oak are equal, we shall look into very remote antiquity for the acorn that produced this venerable sovereign of the woods. And though long since deprived of its towering head and wide-extending arms, yet the enormous trunk will possibly exist in a vegetative state for many ages to come, as its verdure at present appears quite luxuriant. So that without an hyperbole we may assign him a date perhaps little short of a

thousand years, which will serve to show that it was no poetic fiction when Dryden asserted :

"The monarch oak, the patriarch of the trees,
Shoots rising up, and spreads by slow degrees ;
Three centuries he grows, and three he stays
Supreme in state, and in three more decays."

J. STONE.

Sherston.

[1804, *Part II.*, p. 909.]

Fig. 3 in the accompanying Plate is a figure at Sherston, Wilts, between Malmesbury and Bristol.

[1806, *Part II.*, p. 867.]

A large oak-tree growing in a field in the parish of Sherston, Wilts, belonging to Mr. John Deverell, was struck by the lightning on August 19. A large limb, weighing 4 or 5 cwt., was severed off completely from the body of the tree. Nearly the whole of the bark of the tree was also torn off, and scattered round in small pieces to a distance of 20 yards from the tree (see Plate facing p. 1105, Fig. 3).

South Wraxhall.

[1838, *Part I.*, pp. 257-261.]

Having heard that you were about to call the attention of your readers to the manor-house at South Wraxhall, in Wiltshire, I am anxious to offer a few remarks on its early history and its architecture, especially as I last summer took accurate geometrical sketches and admeasurements of the whole range of building (which may, indeed, without impropriety be called the "Longe Howse"), intending them to form the concluding part of my volume entitled "Examples of Gothic Architecture" (Third Series), together with the church of St. Nicholas at Biddestone, in the same county, remarkable for its singular belfry.

The reputed manor* of South Wraxhall, Wrokeshale, or Wrekeshale, anciently formed part of the manor of Bradford, which latter was granted to the Abbess and Convent of Shaftesbury by King Etheldred,† and confirmed to them by Richard I. and Edward I.;‡ so that of its early history little or nothing can at this remote period be correctly ascertained. The first mention I find made of the place itself is in the Chartulary of the Abbey, Harl. MSS., No. 61,

* It was not a manor in the time of Edward I.

† See the Chartulary of the Abbey of Shaftesbury, Harleian MSS., 61.

‡ On a plea of "Quo warranto," temp. Edward I., the Abbess of Shaftesbury contended that her right to the Manor of Bradford was derived from a grant by Richard I., and the jury determined that her title was undisputed. "Placita de Quo Warranto," Rot. 47 and 50.

where it is stated that "Agnes de la Ferer," whose name occurs as abbess in 1252, 1257, and 1267, "with the consent of the Convent conceded and confirmed to God and the blessed Mary Magdalene of Fernlegh,* and to the monks serving God at that place, the gift which Martin chaplain of Wrekeshale made them, namely, a messuage which the same Martin held of them in the ville of Wrokeshale with half a hide of land, with pasture and appurtenances" for which they were to pay a certain rent.† This, however, I imagine refers to a small building which still exists in a field adjoining the manor-house, possessing evident marks of great antiquity; and from an immense chimney, coeval with the building, which is of Early English character, seems to have been a "hospitium," as the one at Chapel Plaster.‡ And in the valuation taken temp. Henry VIII. the teneement at Wraxhall is valued at £1 3s. per annum. It is next mentioned in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of Edward III., when the Abbess and Convent of Shaftesbury manumitted Thomas Scathelok their "villain" of the manor of Bradford, and granted to him and Editha, his wife, daughter of Roger le Porter, one messuage and two virgates and nine acres of land and four acres of meadow with appurtenances in Lyghe and Wrokeshale, within the manor of Bradford, and common of pasture for their cattle upon 116½ acres of land in the said ville within the aforesaid manor, and upon 100 acres of pasture within the township of Lyghe.§ It came into the possession of the family of Longe, or Le Long, prior to the reign of Henry VI., but by what means I have not been able to discover. Camden, in his "Remaines," says, "A young gentleman of the house of Preux, being of tall stature, attending on the Lord Hungerford, Lord Treasurer of England, was among his fellows called Long H., who afterwards preferred to a good marriage by his Lord, was called H. Long, that name continued to his posteritie, knightes and men of great worship."||

The building forms three sides of a quadrangle, and the entrance gateway, which faces the south, occupies the centre of one side; buildings, which are now pulled down, supposed to have been stables, formed, as it were, one wing to the left; as represented in the woodcut vignette; and other offices, extending a great length, formed another wing to the right. On entering the court through this gateway, on the right is the hall, the most ancient portion, and the withdrawing room, added in the time of Elizabeth (see the Plate); and facing is a long range of offices built and added to at various times.

The house is situated on a gently-rising ground about half a mile from the present parish church, or rather chapel, as it is an attached chapel to the vicarage of Bradford.

* Monkton Farley, about a mile from Wraxhall.

† Harleian MSS., 61, folio 92.

‡ See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1835, part i., p. 143.

§ Escact. de anno vicesimo quinto Edwardi III. 53, 2nd Nos. in Turri Lond.

|| Camden's "Remaines," by J. Philipot, p. 142.

The first known possessor of South Wraxhall was Robert Long, who was in the commission of the peace in 1426, and M.P. for Wilts in 1433. He is stated to have married Alice, daughter and heiress of Reginald Popham, of North Bradley, in the county of Wilts, and from the armorial bearings in the hall I presume him to have been the projector of the manor-house; but since the first foundation of this ancient pile many additions and alterations have been made, some to the detriment and some to the improvement of the edifice. His son and heir, Henry, although thrice married, died without issue, October 20, 1490, leaving a widow, Joane, when the estate devolved on his nephew, Sir Thomas Long, whose father had married Margaret, daughter of Edward Wayte by the heiress of Draycot Cerne. This Sir Thomas Long, I presume, added the entrance gateway, as on one of the terminations of the label over the archway (which is a very flat four-centred pointed arch of late date) is the fetterlock, a badge borne by the possessors of Draycot Cerne, on account of their being marshals at the coronations,* and on the other was the stag's head, now destroyed, but which was perfect when Aubrey visited South Wraxhall. He also, I am of opinion, erected the altar-tomb now in the church at South Wraxhall, which is engraved in your Magazine for June, 1835, to the memory of Joane, relict of his uncle Long Henry mentioned above, who, I think, must have been a daughter of Thomas Berkeley by Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Seymer.† This opinion, I find, is at variance with that expressed in your Magazine for June, 1835, but I am induced to adopt it from the late style of mouldings, and the circumstance of the fetterlock being so profusely scattered on the monument, which badge, I believe, was not borne by the Longs until Sir Thomas Long became the possessor of Draycot Cerne. Aubrey thus mentions it: "In the church here (S. Wraxhall) in Longs chapelle, an old altar monument of freestone, on w^{ch} lies a figure with a robe, but so cov^{ed} wth a deske not well to be discerned. I guess it to be of a woman. . . . The south side was as the north, but now almost defaced."

The armorial bearings on the brackets supporting the ribs of the elegant oak roof of the hall, now obscured by a modern ceiling, would lead one to imagine that these brackets were put up by the same person, and the late style in which they are carved would certainly strengthen such a supposition; but the roof itself, which is richly ornamented with quatrefoils between the principals, is certainly of the same date as the exterior, which I consider was built very early in the reign of Henry VI., and from the great similarity of the plan to that of Great Chalfield, which is only distant three miles, I am

* See "Le Neve's Baronets," p. 46.—*Gentleman's Magazine*, June, 1835, part i., p. 590.

† See "Le Neve's Baronets," vol. i., Coll. Arms.

induced to think that it served as a model for that magnificent fabric,* although the dimensions of the two are very different, that at Great Chalfield being much larger.

Leland, in his "Itinerary," says, "Mr. Long hath a little maner, about a mile from Munketon Farley, at Wrexley."†

Sir Thomas Long was of the "Great Compaignie of noblemen" who served under Edward, Duke of Buckingham, against Perkin Warbeck, which circumstance I imagine to have been recorded in the stained glass which at one time adorned all the windows of the manor-house, as related by Aubrey in his collections for Wilts, and enumerated in your Magazine for June, 1835, as most of the coats of arms borne by the distinguished personages who were his companions in that expedition are found amongst them.‡ Not a vestige of this delightful accompaniment to the tracery-headed windows now remains, save a small part of a small window over the porch of the hall, so that great importance is to be attached to Aubrey's MSS. now in the Ashmolean Museum. Many additions were made in the time of Elizabeth by Sir Walter Long, great-grandson of Sir Thomas, who was on terms of intimacy with Sir Walter Raleigh. The left wing of the manor-house, containing, as at Chalfield, the guest-chamber, was pulled down, and a stately withdrawing-room was built, ornamented by a richly-carved chimney-piece, and a still more richly-ribbed plaster ceiling; which room is entered from the hall by a wide staircase leading out of the north-east bay, while the south-east bay communicates with a spacious cellar under this room. A screen at the entrance end of the hall divides off a passage which leads to an inner court by a covered way to the kitchen and offices. This court has a well in the middle of it. An additional kitchen was added at the same time as the drawing-room, eastward of the ancient one.

The front wall of the drawing-room projects some 5 or 6 feet from the bay of the hall, as may be seen in the accompanying plate, which was not the case before the alteration took place, as the old roof still exists above the Elizabethan ceiling, and extends from the

* See *Gentleman's Magazine*, August, 1833, part i., p. 139 and plate; also Walker's "History and Antiquities of the Manor House and Church of Great Chalfield, Wilts," 4to., Lond., 1837.

† He then goes on to say: "The original setting up of the House of the Longes cam, I lernid from Mr. Boneham, by this meanes.

"One Long Thomas, a stout felaw, was sette up by one of the old Lordes Hungrefordes. And after bycause this Thomas was caullid Long Thomas, Long after was usurpid for the name of the family. This Long Thomas master had sum Lande by Hungreford's procuration. Then succedid hym Robert and Henry. Then cam one Thomas Long, descending of younger Brother, and could skille of the Law, and had the inheritance of the aforesaid Longes. Syr Henry and Sir Richard Long were sunnes to this Thomas."—"Itinerary," vol. ii., fol. 30, p. 25. Oxon., 1711.

‡ *Gentleman's Magazine*, June, 1835. Compare p. 591 with p. 593.

wall of the bay only to the staircase ; and in this wall is an immense mullioned and transomed window, which returns round the corner so contrived, and another window of nearly the same dimensions looks out from the other end of this room into the garden. In giving additional width to this room, it was found expedient to preserve the old roof, and for the support of the wall-plate to leave a pier about midway between the two end walls, which occasions a curious angular projection inside the room opposite the fireplace, ornamented with niches and dwarf columns. To the rear of the drawing-room, and ascended by a short flight of steps from it, is a bedroom, and under that a parlour ; these steps also lead into a small closet over the north-east bay ; but all communication with that over the south-east bay was cut off by the alteration ; the door, however, still remains some feet above the present floor, behind the stone-work of the fireplace.

The park or plaisance I presume to have been in front of the hall, as in the wall which encloses the court on the west side an old doorway still remains exactly opposite the porch of the hall.

At the death of Sir Walter Long, who had married twice, the estates of South Wraxhall and Draycot Cerne became again distinct possessions by a stratagem, said to have been laid by the second wife, who prevailed upon Sir Walter to disinherit the son by his first marriage ; but the trustees not only arrested the corpse at the church porch, but by commencing a lawsuit against the second son, obliged him to accept of a moiety of the estates, the eldest taking South Wraxhall and the other the Draycot Cerne.* This was about the middle of the reign of James I. The manor of South Wraxhall descended in regular succession to the grandson of John Long, Esq. (Sir Walter's eldest son and rightful heir). His name was Hope Long, who died without male issue in 1715, when the estate passed to his cousin, Walter Long, Esq., whose son Walter died 1781, unmarried, bequeathing the estate to the sons of his cousin Catharine, the wife of John Long, of Monkton, and sister of Hope Long. Her elder son, John, died unmarried, when the estate passed to his brother Thomas, whose son, Walter Long, Esq., of Whaddon and Wraxhall, died 1807 *sine prole*, bequeathing his estates to trustees, remainder to Walter Long, Esq., M.P. for Wilts, the present possessor, son and heir of the late R. G. Long, Esq., of Rowd Ashton.

THOMAS LARKINS WALKER.

Shrewton.

[1752, pp. 408, 409.]

Having lately made a tour in the West of England, among other observables, Stonehenge claimed some attention. In passing from thence to Longleat, the noble seat of Lord Weymouth, our coach-

* Aubrey's "Miscellanies," pp. 75, 76, 8vo. Lond., 1721.

man baited his horses at a small village called Shrewton, about six miles to the north-west of Stonehenge.

Entering into an inconsiderable public-house, I was much surprised to find a curious piece of sculpture, in alabaster, over the mantelpiece, which, the master of the house informed me, had lately been dug up in one of the adjacent barrows on Salisbury Plain. It is of an oval form, about 2 feet in length, and 1 foot in the broadest part of the diameter. In the middle is represented a woman habited as a queen, with her globe, sceptre, crown, and mantle of state; in a compartment over her head are three figures, evidently representing the three persons of the Holy Trinity; and round the sides are angels intermixed with some of the Apostles. The exquisite workmanship of the woman (who seems intended for the Virgin Mary), the strong as well as tender expression in her features, and the elegance of her drapery, show it to be the work of a very skilful artist, and, in my opinion, render it worthy a place in that Magazine of curiosities with which Wilton has been enriched by its illustrious and judicious possessors.

J. W.

Stanley Abbey.

[1823, *Part I.*, pp. 24-26.]

Before we proceed to illustrate the history and local antiquities of Stanley Abbey, it will be proper to advert to all that we already know of it. This is contained in Dugdale, Leland, and Tanner. The information which Dugdale has given is taken from the register of Lacock, in "*Biblio. Cottoniana*," namely, that in the year 1161 the Abbey of Stanley was first founded at Lockswell, removed from Quarrie (*Quarariâ*), in the Isle of Wight; that after three years it was translated from Lockswell to Stanleigh.

By Leland we are informed that Matilda the Empress first founded a religious house (*domum*) in a place called Lockswell; that afterwards Henry II. removed the brothers (*fratres transtulit*), from Lockswell to Stanley, where he founded the Abbey of Stanley, and gave the lordship to them.—Leland's "*Collectanea*," vol. i., p. 60.

In Tanner's "*Notitia*" is contained as follows:

"LOCKSWELL.

"This place, in the forest of Chippenham, was given by Henry, son of y^e Duke of Normandy, &c., &c., &c., afterwards King Henry y^e Second, to the Monks of Quarre, upon condition that they should settle there a Convent of Cistertians, which they did anno 1151; but three after, that prince and his mother, Maud ye Empress, remov'd the religious from thence to

"STANLEIGH,

"Where they built and endow'd to the honour of the blessed Virgin Mary, an Abbey for thirteen White Monks, whose revenues were valued 26th Henry VIII. at £177 os. 8d. per annum, Dugdale; £222 14s. 4d., Speed. The scite was granted 28th Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Boynton."

This is the substance of all the knowledge we have, I believe, of the foundation and the history of Stanley Abbey, in the forest of Chippenham, and in the parish from whence this letter is dated.

The documents for the foundation of this knowledge are, first, the charter of Henry II., son of the Duke of Normandy, published by Dugdale "*ex officio armorum*" (the Heralds' College); secondly, the Charter of Henry II., and his mother, Matilda, published in the "*Monasticon*"; thirdly, a charter of Richard I., published also in the "*Monasticon*." My antiquarian lore is not very profound, but I am not aware that there exist any other published authentic documents for the history of Stanley Abbey; the light, therefore, which I hope to throw on the earliest foundation at Lockswell and this abbey will be derived from personal investigation, and from authentic copies of all the original grants in the possession of the Baynton family, by whom the lands belonging to both abbeys were purchased from Henry VIII. The most important of these are, first, the Charter of Henry, son of the Duke of Normandy (afterwards King Henry II.), copied in the "*Monasticon*." Secondly, a Grant from Henry, Duke of Normandy, of a hyde of land at Lamburne, which Hugh Plugener gave to the Monastery at St. Mary at Drownfont, in the manor of Chippenham. This grant has never yet been published; upon this, therefore, it will be proper to make a few remarks. In the first charter, Henry is entitled the son of the Duke of Normandy, and therefore it must have been granted before the death of his father, who died about 1180. In the second grant, Henry is entitled Duke of Normandy. The first grant from Henry, son of the Duke of Normandy, gives the lands at Lockswell to the Monks of St. Mary de Quararia, in Insula, etc., to build there "*capitalem abbatiam*" for the souls of his father, Geoffrey Duke of Normandy, his mother's, and his own, and for the welfare of the kingdom of England; this grant was in his father's lifetime, before the year 1150, as in that year his father died, and Henry had the title of Duke of Normandy soon after. Dugdale places the foundation of Stanley 1161, and Leland 1151; in fact, this latter date must have been the date of the earliest Abbey at Lockswell.

In the second Charter of Confirmation, when Henry was Duke of Normandy, we find a hyde of land in Lamburn, given by Hugh Plugener (the name of Pinnegor very common in this county) to the monks of Drownfont. There is no published account of Drownfont,

or the monks of Drownfont, and therefore it was my first object to ascertain where this Drownfont was situated, and the origin of this forgotten name, and I flatter myself I have completely succeeded.

It will be remembered that the land first granted in Wiltshire was for the foundation of Lockswell. I therefore naturally concluded that in the neighbourhood of Lockswell (now Lockswell Heath, at the back of the Marquis of Lansdowne's plantations at Bowood), there must be some remarkable spring or fountain. For the second unpublished charter gives so much land to the Monks of St. Mary of Drownfont. In the third grant, conjunctively, from Matilda and her son, of a meadow in the forest of Chippenham, near Lacock Bridge, this Abbey Drownfont is called *Abbatia de Drogonis Fonte*. In further investigation of the place, and the origin of the name, I was convinced that the Abbey which had existed for three years in Lockswell and then vanished, like Aladdin's palace, must, from the name, have been built near the spring or fountain at Lockswell, which must yet exist.

Why it was called the Abbey de Drownfont, and "*de Drogonis Fonte*," must be equally clear, when, in turning to the first and earliest grant, we find this remarkable passage: "*Ego filius, &c. Ducis Normanniæ, are here given Lock'swell (Lockwellam), with all the rights and customs which my mother and myself gave to Drogo, my mother's chamberlain, to the Monks of Quarre;—terras, cum consuetudinibus et libertatibus, quos et mater mea, et ego, dedimus Drogoni, matris meæ Camerario.*" It will, therefore, I think, clearly follow that Drogo, Matilda's chamberlain, having the first possession of Lock'swell, the name of the abbey, as long as it there continued, was that of St. Mary de Drownfont, or *de Drogonis Fonte*. To this abbey the grants are made primarily of Henry and Matilda. There is also a grant to the same abbey from William Earl of Salisbury, son of Patrick, the founder of Bradenstoke Abbey in the neighbourhood. All the other grants from Richard I., dated Messina, when he went to the Crusades; from Edward I., dated Dumferling, where he kept his Christmas, after the conquest of Scotland; from Henry III., etc., are to Stanley.

The site of the earliest abbey at Lock'swell, the name, and the origin of that name, as I flatter myself I have been the first to discover, I may, perhaps, if you will give me leave, occupy a few more pages of your valuable Miscellany, some future time, in communicating an account of the other grants, which throw so much light on the history of the abbey of Stanley in this parish, and particularly in describing the beautiful fountain or spring at Lock'swell, which has been nameless for centuries, and which, bursting from the top of a woody and romantic eminence, which commands a vast sweep of distant country in front, winds his way through the wildest glades of the ancient forest of Chippenham.

W. L. BOWLES.

Stanton St. Quintin.

[1800, *Part II.*, p. 1025.]

Fig. 2 in the accompanying plate represents a small, square tower at Stanton St. Quintin, Wilts. Stanton is a small village about six miles from Chippenham and four from Malmesbury. If any of your correspondents can furnish any particulars of its history, they will not only favour the public, but materially oblige their humble servant,

J. BRITTON.

Steeple Langford.

[1792, *Part I.*, pp. 201, 202.]

Knowing you are fond of antiquities from the constant perusal of your excellent work for these many years past, permit me to give you an account of the rectors of Steeple Langford, Wilts, for these last 185 years, and should you think it worth inserting, you will oblige

A. B.

"I Parham, rector, ob. Sept. 12, 1607."

In a corner niche in the church, in his canonicals, is the following :

"The effigies of the rev. Mr. Joseph Collier, who was instituted rector of this parish in the beginning of the last century, viz., A.D. 1608, and was buried in 1635. He was succeeded by his son Henry, who, in the time of the rebellion, was sequestered from the parsonage 15 years, and retook possession on the 18th of Sept., 1660, and died March, 1670. Arthur, his youngest son, succeeded him, and died in Sept., 1696. He was succeeded by Arthur, his eldest son, and the fourth of this family who were successively rectors of this parish. Margaret, the relict of the last named Arthur Collier, ordered this inscription to be placed here, as also that over the grave-stone of the said Arthur on the 1st of July, 1734, in testimony of her affectionate regard."

The epitaph on the last Arthur Collier, husband of the above Margaret, who sold the living to Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1730, is fixed on the wall in the chancel :

"To the memory of the rev. Arthur Collier, rector of this parish, who was born Oct., 1680; he married Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Johnson, esq., by whom he left issue two sons, Arthur and Charles, and two daughters, Jane and Margaret; and he was buried Sept. 9, 1732."

N.B.—The last-named Margaret was living somewhere in the Isle of Wight within these ten years.

The following is the epitaph of the first rector from Corpus Christi College; he was the father of the late Dr. J. Ballard, fellow of Winchester College, and Rector of Portsea, Hants :

"H. S. E. JOHANNES BALLARD, S.T.P. Hujus ecclesiæ per triginta annos, Rector perpetue residens, Obiit A.D. 1763, æt. 70. Et FRANCISCA HARRICI GORING, de Highden, in com. Sussex, baroni filia, per decem annos & sex menses uxor ejus, bonæ formæ, & eximie benignitatis, ergo charissima; Quæ puerperio obiit die vig. nov. Oct., A.D. 1749, æt. 33. Necnon eorum liberi, Carolus sequi-

mestris, Martha viginti tres dies nata, Christiana quadrimula, Eliz. ultra sex annos nata. Liberi superstites, Johannes & Francisca, Eliz. & Harricus. Pietatis ergo M.M.P.P."

To him succeeded the Rev. J. Ford, who died about January, 1779, and was succeeded by the present rector, the Rev. Samuel Weller.

Stonehenge.

[1806, *Part II.*, p. 600.]

The accompanying view of Stonehenge (see Fig. 2) was delineated previous to the fall of some of the principal stones.

WILLIAM HAMPER.

[1824, *Part II.*, pp. 504, 505.]

In my early days I frequently visited Stonehenge to make observations at sunrise as well as by starlight. I noticed that the lower edge of the impost of the outer circle forms a level horizontal line in the heavens, equi-distant from the earth, to the person standing near the centre of the building, about 15 degrees above the horizon on all sides.

Stonehenge stands on rather sloping ground; the uprights of the outer circle are nearly a foot taller on the lower ground or western side than they are on the eastern, purposely to keep the horizontal level of the impost, which marks great design and skill. The thirty uprights of the outer circle are not found exactly of equal distances, but the imposts (so correctly true on their under bed) are each of them about 7 cubits in length, making 210 cubits the whole circle.

If a person stands before the highest leaning-stone (called Sol by Smith), between it and the altar stone looking eastward, he will see the pyramidal stone called the Friar's Heel, coinciding with the top of Durrington Hill, marking nearly the place where the sun rises on the longest day. This was the observation of a Mr. Warltire, who delivered lectures on Stonehenge at Salisbury (1777), and who had drawn a meridian line on one of the stones. Mr. Warltire asserted that the stone of the trilithons and of the outer circle are the stone of the country, and that he had found the place from whence they were taken, about fourteen miles from the spot northward, somewhere near Urchfont.

If the person so standing turns to his left hand, he will find a groove in one of the 6-foot pillars from top to bottom, which (in the lapse of so many ages, and swelled by the alternate heat and moisture of two thousand years, has lost its shape) might have contained in it a scale of degrees for measuring; and the stone called the altar* would have answered to draw those diagrams on, and this

* Dr. Smith says that he has tried a bit of this stone, and found that it would not stand fire. It is, therefore, very improbable that it should have been used for burnt sacrifices.

scale of degrees was well placed for use in such a case, for one turning himself to the left, and his right hand holding a compass, could apply it most conveniently. With all this apparatus the motions of the heavenly bodies might have been accurately marked and eclipses calculated, a knowledge of which, Cæsar says, they possessed in his time.

Wood and Dr. Stukeley both make the inner oval to consist of nineteen stones, answering to the ancient Metonic Cycle of nineteen years, at the end of which the sun and the moon are in the same relative situation as at the beginning, when indeed the same almanack will do again. . . .

In my younger days I have visited Stonehenge by starlight, and found, on applying my sight from the top of the 6-feet pillars of the inner oval and looking at the high trilithons, I could mark the places of the planets and the stars in the heavens, so as to measure distances by the corners and angles of them. . . .

It is very remarkable that no barrow or tumulus exists on the east side, where the sun (the great object of ancient worship) first appears.

H. WANSEY.

Stourton.

[1838, *Part II.*, pp. 28, 29.]

The church of Stourton, which is dedicated to St. Peter, consists of a nave, extending from the turret to the belfry 43 feet 6 inches, and from the choir to the altar 28 feet 9 inches; its total breadth is 31 feet from the north door. It has one side-aisle to the north, and a family pew projecting to the south. Its exterior appearance will be seen from the plate; in the interior, its original architecture is encroached upon by alterations in the Grecian style.

It contains many memorials to the family of Stourton, which are faithfully recited in Sir Richard Hoare's "*History of the Hundred of Mere*." On one tomb are two effigies sculptured in stone, and recumbent on a richly-decorated base, of which the historian has given a plate. There is another effigy of stone representing a female figure, habited in an antique dress, which lies recumbent on the ledge of a window-seat in the north aisle, but it is hidden from view.

After the family of Hoare became possessors of the estate which the Barons of Stourton had held for so many centuries, their sepulchral memorials naturally formed a sequel to those of their predecessors on the River Stour. Of these, the following exist within and without the walls of the parish church.

Henry Hoare, with Jane Benson his wife, were buried without the walls of the church, and till within these few years their tombstones, exposed to the weather, became dilapidated, and threatened decay. They were, however, restored and placed under cover, with a sarcophagus on each tomb, by the late worthy baronet, who also restored

the ancient cross, and erected a family mausoleum in the churchyard adjoining, which are both seen in our view.

The name of Henry Hoare, the first settler at Stourton, has been thus recorded by an inscription placed to his memory by his widow :

"To the pious memory of HENRY HOARE, Esquire, son of Sir Richard Hoare, sometime Lord Mayor, President of Christ's Hospital, and Member of Parliament for the City of London.

"His character is too great to be described, and yet too good to be concealed. His love of God and mankind were so ardent that he sought all opportunities of honouring the one and doing good to the other. He was strictly pious himself, without being censorious to others; truly humble without affectation; grave without moroseness; cheerful without levity; just beyond exception; and merciful without reserve. God blessed him with a good understanding, which he improved by conversing with the best books and wisest men, and by a constant course of serious meditation. He lived under a settled habit of private charities, and bore a noble share in all those public acts of piety and mercy which have continued the blessings and averted the judgments of God. Hence he was honoured with the esteem of all good men, and with the friendship of many of the most distinguished by their high rank and great merit. He had a well-grounded and therefore an inflexible zeal for the faith, discipline, and worship of the Church of England.

"He gave by his last will two thousand pounds for erecting and encouraging Charity Schools and Workhouses; the profits and produce of two thousand pounds more to be applied yearly, for ever, in purchasing and giving to the poor the Holy Bible, the Common Prayer, and the Whole Duty of Man; and left one thousand three hundred pounds to other charitable uses. His soul went to God March the 12th, 1724, in the forty-eighth year of his age.

"He married JANE, daughter of Sir William Benson, Knight, by whom he had eleven children, of which two sons and three daughters now survive. This monument was erected at her expense, being now his mournful widow, as she was his most faithful and affectionate wife."

After the death of this munificent and public-spirited citizen his widow resided at Stourhead, and, in the same spirit of charity which breathed so fervently in the breast of her husband, she made several charitable and religious bequests in favour of the parish of Stourton. She was interred in an arched grave without the eastern wall of the church, where a simple memorial records her birth and death :

"In the same situation, and parallel with the grave of his mother, was deposited, by his own special order, the body of her son, Henry Hoare, Esquire, whose memory is commemorated by a handsome monumental tablet and inscription within the church, erected by order of his executor and son-in-law, Sir Richard Hoare, of Barn Elms, Bart.—In the year 1817 these tombs, by a long exposure to the weather, became so dilapidated that Sir Richard Colt Hoare, in gratitude to his grandfather and generous benefactor, ordered the tombs to be repaired, and a porch to be built over them.

' Sic cineri gloria sera venit ! '

On the same wall, and adjoining to the aforesaid monument within the church, is the following inscription to the memory of Henry, son to the late Henry Hoare, Esq. :

"Henry Hoare, Esquire, to whom this memorial is erected, married, first, Anne, daughter of Samuel, Lord Masham, by whom he had a daughter, who died in 1735, aged eight years. By his second wife, Susan, who deceased in 1743,

daughter and heiress of Stephen Colt, Esquire, he had three sons and two daughters. 1. Henry, who died soon after birth in 1729. 2. Henry, born 22 December, 1730, who died at Naples in 1752. 3. Susanna, born 15 April, 1732, married, first, to Charles, Lord Boyle, afterwards Lord Dungarvan, eldest son of John, Earl of Cork and Orrery; secondly, to Thomas, Lord Bruce, now Earl of Ailesbury; she died in February, 1783. 4. Colt, born 11 November, 1733, who died in May, 1740. 5. Anne, born 27 June, 1737, who, being married to Richard Hoare, of Barn Elms, in the county of Surrey, Esquire, and having given birth to two sons—Henry Richard, born and buried in 1757, and Richard Colt, born 9 December, 1758—expired on the 5th of May, 1759, leaving a lively image of many amiable virtues impressed on the hearts of all who had the happiness of knowing her gentle and engaging character."

The above inscription is placed on a large tablet in Stourton church, and decorated with two Cupids or angels, one of whom is represented entwining a wreath round a sepulchral urn; the other, weeping, holds a funereal torch in one hand and a scroll in the other, on which are some lines, written by William Hayley, Esq. . . .

The third and remaining monument, which is placed within the rails of the altar, records the memory of Hester Lyttelton, daughter of William Henry, Lord Westcote, since created Lord Lyttelton, and wife of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart. :

"To the memory of the Honourable Hester Hoare, wife of Richard Colt Hoare, Esquire, of Stourhead, in the county of Wilts, and daughter of the Right Honourable Lord Westcote, of Hagley Park, in the county of Worcester, who died on the 22nd day of August, in the year 1785, in the twenty-third year of her age."

This beautiful monument was sent from Italy, and represents a sarcophagus of Egyptian granite, surmounted by an urn of foreign marble, with two weeping boys.

The excellent baronet whose death we have now to lament (see the Obituary of our present number), alike estimable as the paternal landlord and the munificent patron of literature and art, was interred beneath the mausoleum erected in the churchyard, upon which is placed a tablet thus inscribed :

"HOC SEPULCHRETUM
SIBI ET POSTERIS
RICHARDUS COLT HOARE
FIERI CURAVIT
ANNO MDCCCXIX."

Stratford-sub-Castle.

[1790, *Part II.*, p. 1099.]

• The parish of Stratford-sub-Castle includes the manor of Old Sarum, and belongs to the family of Pitt, of Boconnock, in Cornwall. The general opinion is that it gave birth to Lord Chatham. There is a very old seat, but not inhabited by them for many years. The ancestor of Lord Camelford rebuilt the best part of the church; and under a large tree the members for the borough are chosen. There

is but one house remaining of the ancient city, which belongs to John Cooper, Esq., of New Sarum, who possesses a considerable number of curious coins dug up there, which are well worth the attention of the virtuoso.

I would recommend to strangers who visit Salisbury, and wish to see Stonehenge, to take the road through Stratford and the Durnfords, in preference to the dreary and desolate country over the plain, as they pass the seats of Edward Younge and William Bowles, Esquires, of Heale, whose beautiful plantations give a pleasing variety to the scenes around. Charles II. took a night's lodging at Heale House, after passing a defile of Cromwell's army, who were in pursuit of him, and, what is singular, though pressed on all sides by his enemies, could not withstand the temptation of viewing that venerable relic of antiquity, Stonehenge.

JOHN ELDERTON.

[1800, *Part I.*, p. 201.]

The annexed drawing, Fig. 2, is a sketch of Stratford House, near the castle of Old Sarum. The mansion has not been occupied by the Pitt family for a great number of years, but let to different tenants; first, I think, to a Mr. Treby; after him, Lord Windsor; and then a West Indian (George Webbe, Esq., of the island of Nevis), and for some years past has been occupied by a farmer, tenant to Lord Camelford.

AMICUS.

Teffont Ewyas.

[1830, *Part II.*, pp. 105, 106.]

The church of Teffont Ewyas (see Plate I.) has lately been rebuilt, and the tower added, chiefly by the exertions of J. T. Mayne, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A., the lord of the manor and patron of the church, aided by the contributions of his friends.

Since the engraving was made, Mr. Mayne has continued to improve the beauty of the church by raising the chancel to within a few feet of the height of the nave, and by adding three open quatre-foils between each pinnacle of the tower; and Mr. Mayne has in contemplation to add also a spire.

Teffont Ewyas is in the Hundred of Dunworth, co. Wilts. The parish consists of about 700 acres, and is situated in a pleasant retired valley, near the turnpike road from Hindon to Salisbury, from which city it is distant nine miles.

The freestone quarries at the verge of this parish supplied in a great measure the stone for Salisbury Cathedral, more than thirty acres of land having been excavated for that purpose, and these same quarries have supplied the stone for the late rebuilding of Teffont Ewyas Church.

The additional name of Ewyas was derived from a former

possessor, who enjoyed also the barony of Ewyas in Herefordshire. The distinguished families of Tregoz and Hussey were successively lords of this parish. With an heiress of the Husseys the manor passed to Sir Thomas Hungerford, the first appointed Speaker of the House of Commons.

In 1545 the Crown granted the manor to H. Ley, Esq., father of James Ley, Earl of Marlborough, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Lord High Treasurer of England. The earl died at Lincoln's Inn, 1628, and was buried at Westbury, Wilts, where a stately monument was erected to his memory.

In the chancel of Teffont Ewyas is an altar monument, on which are three male figures in recumbent postures. That nearest the wall is elevated above the other two, and represents H. Ley, Esq., in black armour, his head resting on a cushion, and his feet on a lion couchant. The other two figures represent his sons, William and Matthew, also habited in armour, with trunk hose and large ruffs round their necks. All three have been painted, but the legs of all are broken.

Above this monument, but forming a part of it, are the arms of Ley, viz : Argent, a chevron between three wolves' heads caboshed sable, langued gules ; impaling, Argent, two chevrons sable, a label in chief vert.

Beneath, on a tablet of black marble, is the following inscription :

"D.O.M.S. Hic requiescunt in morte HENRICI LEY, Arm. reliquæ, qui ex veteri LEYORUM prosapiâ in agro Devon oriundus, è Dyonisiâ de St. Mayne, conjuge, numerosam dignioris sexus suscepit propaginem, viz. WILLIELMUM et MATTHEUM (quorum hic visuntur imagines, et subter sita sunt ossa), Johannem, Henricum, Petrum, atque insuper Jacobum, Malbrigi Comitum, Angliæ Thesaurarium. Obiit a natâ salute M.D.LXXIII. Junii VII."

At the west end of this monument, beneath the heads of the two lower figures, on black marble tablets, are these inscriptions :

"WILLIELMUS LEY, Arm. octogenario major et cœlebs, cœlos adiit, æræ Christ. M.DC.XXXIII. April v."

"MATTH. LEY, Ar., vir plenus virtutum et dierum, placidè animam Deo reddidit Maii XXIII. M.DC.XXXII. ætat' suæ LXXXVII."

Between these inscriptions, on an oval shield, are the arms of Ley, surmounted by a helmet, the crest broken off.

On the south side of the monument are three oval shields, the first displaying the arms of Ley, the other defaced.

In the time of Charles II. the manor of Teffont Ewyas was in possession of the Ash family ; they sold it in 1679 to Christopher Mayne, Esq., ancestor of the present possessor.

Of the family of Mayne a full account and pedigree may be seen in Sir R. C. Hoare's "*History of Dunworth Hundred*," pp. 111, 112. The lives of two eminent ecclesiastics of this family, Dr. Jasper

Mayne, and Alexander Mayne, are recorded by Wood in his "*Athenæ Oxonienses*."

In the sepulchral vault at Teffont is a handsome cenotaph, erected by Isabella, the last Countess of Dundonald, only daughter of Samuel Raymond, of Belchamp Hall, co. Essex, to the memory of her first husband, John Mayne, Esq., of the Temple, barrister at law, who died anno 1785, and to the memory of the Mompesson, Waldron, and Batt families, successively intermarried, and who with his kindred and relations were buried underneath.

There are also three other monuments to the family of Mayne, the inscriptions on which will be found in Sir R. C. Hoare's "*History of Dunworth Hundred*."

N. R. S.

Tollard Royal.

[1811, *Part I.*, p. 217.]

In the Chase of Cranborne, within a mile of the county of Dorset, is a house called King John's hunting-seat, in the parish of Tollard Royal, Wilts. The interior bears evident marks of antiquity. The walls are of great thickness, and the rooms very large and lofty. It is now a farmhouse (see Plate II., Fig. 1). Fig. 2 is the staircase to the principal rooms. Fig. 3 is a chimneypiece in one of the bed-chambers, of carved oak. The present building appears to be only a small part remaining of the royal mansion.

There is an ancient custom from time immemorial, and kept up to this time, that on the first Monday in September the steward of the lord of the manor holds a court under a certain tree in the chase, and after the court breaks up they hunt and kill a brace of fat bucks. The company are regaled with venison pasty for breakfast, when it is usual on this occasion to make the keepers a present.

T. A.

Urchfont.

[1820, *Part II.*, p. 301.]

Uphant, or Urchfont House, is the residence of Mrs. Compton, a short distance from Devizes, in the county of Wilts. It was built by Sir Wm. Pynsint, who gave this and his other property to the late Lord Chatham, on account of his political character. Lord Chatham afterwards sold it to the Duke of Queensberry, who leased it out on lives. It is held now under Wm. Salmon of South Broom House, near Devizes. In a field in this parish, adjoining to Wickham Green, the property of Wm. Tinker, Esq., of Littleton, in this county, are three graves, of John, Jacob, and Humphry Giddons, who are said to have died of the plague. It appears, indeed, from the parish register, that this disorder raged in the parish in the year 1644, and it is natural to conclude that the above-mentioned persons were buried at that time, though there is no mention of their names in

the register. There is also a very remarkable circumstance handed down to posterity, of the minister of the parish of Urchfont (Mr. Peter Glassbrook), his son, and four grandchildren, having died of the plague, and that they were buried by the hands of a maid-servant, the only one who survived, in the vicarage house. A few years since, the Rev. Mr. Smith, late vicar of this parish, wishing to add to the height of his rooms, sunk the floor; in doing which, a number of human bones were found, which in a great measure substantiates this traditionary account. In this same field where the three graves above mentioned are to be seen is a sort of subterraneous cavern, reported to have been a depot for the plunder, and hiding-place of a notorious robber by the name of Wapley, alias Quabb, who was afterwards tried and executed.

CLERICUS.

Warminster.

[1791, *Part II.*, p. 1177.]

Annexed you have a rough sketch (Plate III., fig. 2) of a figure found a few days since in pulling down part of a very old building at Warminster, that has always been known by the name of, and supposed to have been, a nunnery. It is as large as the original, and appears to be made of earth, has a very high varnish, is very black and light, and has lost the legs, and a small part of the bonnet on the left side. It seems (from two holes, one under each arm) to have been suspended by a string, and may probably have been worn by the owner. If you favour it with a place in your Magazine, in all probability some of your correspondents may discover what it is meant to represent.

H.

[1846, *Part I.*, p. 304.]

There have lately been erected in Warminster, through the unceasing exertions of the vicar, the Rev. A. Fane, aided by the contributions of the friends of the church, commodious schoolrooms for the boys educated on the national system, together with a house for the master, and a room to be used for religious and school-committee meetings, etc. The architect is Mr. Wyatt, of London, and the appearance of the frontage is very picturesque. The cost of erection is nearly £2,000.

Westbury.

[1821, *Part II.*, p. 232.]

A curious inscription having lately been made known to me, and a part of it being totally unintelligible to me, I hope some of your learned correspondents may be able to cast some light upon it.

The following words are inscribed on a board, which was formerly placed over the house of the celebrated Republican General :

“EDMUND LUDLOW, who died and was buried at Vevay in Switzerland.
OMNE SOLVM PORTI PATRIA QVIA PATRIS.”

The four first words are truly applicable to the martial character of this personage, but I can make nothing out of the two last words QVIA PATRIS.

N.B.—This original board is preserved in Heywood House, near Westbury, the seat of Abraham Ludlow, Esq. ANTIQUARIUS.

West Dean.

[1826, *Part II.*, p. 297.]

I enclose a view of the garden front of the ancient manor-house of West Dean, co. Wilts (see Plate I.), in the hope that it may be preserved in your valuable Miscellany, as the mansion itself, which was an interesting relic of the age in which it was built, has been lately taken down.

The parish of West Dean, which lies nearly on the south-eastern extremity of the county, appears to have been held at the Conquest by Waleran the huntsman ; it afterwards formed part of the possessions of Oliver de Ingham, who inherited it from his mother Albreda, daughter of Walter Waleran, living in the year 1200. John, the son of Oliver de Ingham, was Lord of West Dean, 10 Edward I., which he left to his son and heir Oliver, who having been entrusted with several military commands by Edward II. and Edward III., was summoned among the great barons to Parliament, by the last-mentioned monarch. He died 17 Edward III. without male issue, when this estate fell at the partition of the property to Roger L'Estrange, of Knockin, who married Joan, his youngest daughter. It probably remained in this family for many years, as the male line of this branch continued till the reign of Edward IV., when Johanna, the daughter and heiress of Richard L'Estrange, Lord of Knockin, conveyed the family property to George, son of Thomas Stanley, Earl of Derby, who became Lord Strange in right of his wife.

About the reign of Queen Elizabeth, West Dean became the property and residence of the family of Evelyn, descended from the same ancestor as the celebrated author of the “*Sylva*.” Sir John Evelyn, of West Dean, left an only daughter and heiress Elizabeth, who married Robert Pierpont, son and heir of the Honourable Wm. Pierpont, second son of Robert, Earl of Kingston, whose third son, Evelyn, on failure of the issue of his elder brother, became Earl, and in 1715 was created Duke of Kingston. He occasionally resided at West Dean, which is mentioned (with the favourite occupations of the family there) by his celebrated daughter, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, in her “*Letters*” before her marriage. It is

indeed traditionally asserted that she eloped with Mr. Montagu from this place. West Dean, in the early part of the last century, was inhabited by Lord Ranelagh, and afterwards by the family of Elwyn, baronets.

Its last tenants were a society of nuns who fled from Flanders during the Revolution; it is unpleasing to add that they were compelled to remove from this place in consequence of the rudeness and annoyance of the workmen employed on the intended canal from Salisbury to Southampton. The property having descended to several individuals of the noble family of Moore, the house was after this period for many years uninhabited, and fell into decay; and the estate having about three years since been purchased by Mr. Baring Wall, this ancient mansion was immediately dismantled, and the materials sold.

West Dean House was, according to the fashion of the times, situated very near the parish church (a small unornamented edifice, containing several monuments of the Evelyn family) in a grove of magnificent elms. The eastern front retained its original appearance, but the opposite side had been modernized, and was further adorned with a handsome terrace, faced with pillars, and terminated at each extremity with orangeries of elegant proportions and costly decorations. Immediately beyond were the pleasure-grounds of considerable extent, where vestiges of the successive tastes of the different proprietors were till very lately easily discovered. G. M.

Whiteparish.

[1832, *Part II.*, pp. 296, 297.]

Behind the church of Whiteparish, situated on the road between Romsey and Salisbury, was a house of no mean size, appearing to have been erected at different periods. On a narrow projecting part of this building, composed of flint, and said to have been erected by Edward St. Barbe, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and who died in 1616, are three windows of the fashion of that day, one above the other; between the uppermost and middle one, on a square stone tablet, a rose surmounted by a crown and encircled with the garter and usual motto of "Honi soit qui mal y pense."

Between the middle and lower window two other tablets. On one the arms of the original builder impaled with Beswick, on the other the arms of St. Barbe impaled with Little. The rest of the building, from thence towards the church, is of brick and of some extent, containing in its length six square windows. Over the entrance-door are the arms of Anthony Hungerford impaling those of Mason, widow of a St. Barbe; and this Mr. Hungerford is said to have repaired, if not wholly rebuilt, this part. Beneath the arms last mentioned a smaller tablet bearing the arms of St. Barbe simply. Some years since the estate of which the above house was a part

passed into other hands, and it was wholly pulled down, and there is no trace of the remains, further than by a drawing of the house as it appeared in the time of its being in Mr. Hungerford's possession.

I trouble you with the above by way of further illustrating the family of the Hungerfords, and to ascertain how far the one of that name above mentioned was allied to the one to whom Hungerford Market owns its origin.

J. L.

Wilton.

[1795, *Part I.*, pp. 475, 476.]

Wilton House may be considered to this country what the Luxemburg palace was once to France, *un grand dépôt*, containing the choicest rarities of every part of the world, collected by that eminent patron of the arts, Thomas, Earl of Pembroke, who spared no cost that it should vie with the most celebrated in foreign countries. His ancestors were at all times conspicuous to reward and encourage the talents of eminent men, as the garden front to the house, a noble piece of architecture by Inigo Jones, will sufficiently testify. The collection of pictures and busts are transcendently beautiful; but to enumerate them would require too great a portion of your pages. The family picture, by Vandyke, is deservedly celebrated as an unique. It consists of ten whole-length figures: Philip, Earl of Pembroke, and his countess, with five of their sons standing on their right; their daughter and her husband, the Earl of Carnarvon, near them on the left; a daughter of George, Duke of Buckingham, who married a son of the earl; and in the clouds appear two sons and a daughter, who died in their infancy. In one of the rooms is a table of porphyry, Venus reclining in a sleeping posture; and a dog stuffed, who by his barking saved the house and family from being burnt. The park, as it appears from the window, is delightfully agreeable; and, what is rarely to be met with, great numbers of cork-trees are scattered about. On a pleasant knolle is erected a triumphal arch, with an equestrian statue on it of Marcus Aurelius. The old road which led to the house has been stopped up, and a new one made, which takes off from the formality of a straight avenue. Leaving this noble seat, where the eye is almost satiated with splendour, it seeks relief in traversing the turf on the race-ground, from which eminence is seen that beautiful obelisk, Sarum's lofty spire, with the cathedral and city.

There is a very steep hill which leads into the vale to Dr. Baker's farm; and the prospect of the houses and gardens of the residentiaries, in descending, is exceedingly picturesque. Continuing the route on the banks of the Avon, a genteel-looking house at Britford, belonging to Jervoise Purefoy, Esq., appears in sight; a good estate is annexed to it, abounding with game. The amateurs in feasting and shooting calculate more partridges can be destroyed on this manor than on

any other of the same size within several miles. Clipped hedges, and other insignia of neatness, give warning that Longford Castle, the seat of the Earl of Radnor, is at no great distance. Beautiful enclosures appearing on all sides, and Alderbury Church, with the new-built seat of George Fort, Esq., alderman of Salisbury, becomes now a very striking object. Entering the park through a very handsome lodge, the road winds in a very pleasing manner to the house, built in triangular form, with round towers at the corners, the gardens appearing to the right. Due respect is shown by the servants in each department. The Prince of Wales was sumptuously entertained here a few years since, when his affability and great condescension gave universal satisfaction. The pictures are extremely well done; the *Morning and Evening*, by Claude Lorraine, are very fine, prints from which are in the hands of most connoisseurs; the *Passage of the Red Sea*, and *Adoration of the Golden Calf*, by Poussin; *St. Sebastian*, the united work of Michael Angelo and Sebastiano del Piombo. There is likewise shown a curious chair, presented to the Emperor Rodolphus II. by the city of Augsburg; the history of it is, the unity of the Roman Empire from its rise, through a succession of ages, in different compartments. It is exceedingly well executed, and deserves attention. An elegant-looking house, the property of John Thomas Batt, Esq., barrister at law, attracts notice soon after quitting Longford; but I must decline the insertion of anything further except the mentioning a Roman encampment on the hill leading to Rocksburne, where that brave and distinguished warrior, Sir Eyre Coote, lies interred.

ΦΙΑΟΞ R

Wootton-Basset.

[1823, *Part II.*, p. 261.]

In cleaning the south wall, which is a more ancient part of Wotton-Basset Church than the rest of the structure with which it is now united, the workmen have accidentally brought to light a very curious painting, executed in the rudest style, but evidently illustrating the subject which it represented. In the act of brushing a piece of plaster fell off, and discovered underneath the armed foot of a man with a spur; gradually removing the plaster around, the workmen found a painting, in water-colours, of the murder of Archbishop Becket. The four knights, in complete armour, are in the act of assaulting the Archbishop. The figures of the knights are nearly perfect, the two foremost pressing on him with their swords drawn, the latter in the act of drawing. The Archbishop is kneeling before the altar; between his hands, which are raised in a pious attitude, is the wafer; the cup and the book are placed on the table before him; the crosier and mitre are by his side; the Cardinal's red robe, with golden bands, is distinct. His features are a good deal obliterated, but there is sufficient to distinguish that his head is

turned round in sudden surprise. The entrance by the folding-door of the cathedral is also rudely represented, and below is sketched what was intended to signify the cathedral itself. This painting is curious, both from the subject and the rudeness of its execution. It was done, in all probability, at an age when Becket's character as a saint stood high, as a holy decoration for the church, and at no great distance from the event. He was murdered A.D. 1170. It is not so easy to determine when the painting was covered over; very likely at the Reformation, to efface a Catholic memorial of a personage to whom such miraculous celebrity was ascribed. It might, however, have been covered up in the time of Cromwell. On the opposite wall the plaster was also removed, and the painting of the royal arms of Charles discovered; these were also covered over. The zeal of the Puritans in those days might have caused both the picture and the king's arms to be effaced together. The picture is evidently painted on the first coating, as the base-stone is immediately underneath.

Wyley.

[1788, *Part I.*, p. 225.]

Is there any monumental inscription in the Church of Wyley, Wilts, to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Botoir, or to the Rev. John Lee, both rectors of that parish, who died about 1620? I am informed by the son of a late rector, that what the register of that parish says concerning those persons is highly curious, and wish some correspondent would send you a transcript of it. SEARCH.

References to previous volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library*:

- Prehistoric Antiquities*:—Avebury; cromlech near Marlborough; tumuli at Nettleton and Stonehenge; Silbury Hill; ear of corn in tumulus at Warminster; fossil oak-tree at Westbury.—*Archæology*, part i., pp. 4, 149-151, 302; part ii., pp. 75-101.
- Anglo-Saxon Remains*:—Burial-place at Harnham Hill; battle-place at Marten; pits at Martin; charters referring to Overton; the Wansdyke.—*Archæology*, part ii., pp. 161, 162, 190-192, 219, 282, 283.
- Roman Remains*:—Bagdon; Box; Bromham; Farley; North Wraxhall; Old Sarum; Warminster.—*Romano-British Remains*, part i., pp. 346-356.
- Architecture*:—Carlton House; Laycock nunnery; Malmesbury Abbey; Salisbury Cathedral; Old Sarum; Wilton House.—*Architectural Antiquities*, part i., pp. 162-171, 200-218, 375, 376, 379; part ii., pp. 4, 29, 30, 33, 254, 264, 265.
- Ecclesiology*:—Fonts at Chevington and Stanton; sculptures at Little Langford and Malmesbury; early stone church at Malmesbury; sculptured emblem of the Trinity at Rodborne; Salisbury Cathedral and cathedral school.—*Ecclesiology*, pp. 53, 99, 100, 111, 121, 122, 130, 166, 244, 270.
- Folklore*:—Witchcraft at Malmesbury.—*Popular Superstitions*, pp. 281-291.

Indexes.



INDEX OF NAMES.

- ABBOTT (G.), defends Caldecote Hall, 11; marriage of, 39; monument of, 16, 38, 39
 A Becket (Archbishop of Canterbury), murder of, painting of, 351, 352
 Aberall (W.), monument of, 64
 Abercorn (J., Earl of), marriage of, 241
 Abercromby (Sir R.), school of, 18
 Abernethy (family of), arms of, 240
 A'Court (Sir W. P. A.), seat of, 11, 190; manor of, 184
 Adams (H. C.), seat of, 6
 Adamson (R.), foundation of, 136, 147
 Adderley (C. B.), seat of, 6
 Adderley (—), opposes Royalists at Birmingham, 11
 Addison (J.), residence of, 16; birthplace of, 178, 200; school of, 187, 200
 Addison (L., Dean of Lichfield), birthplace of, 138, 161; rectory of, 200
 Addison (T.), benefaction of, 147
 Adelia (Queen of Henry I.), reputed birthplace of, 184
 Adslaw (J.), memorial brass of, 224
 Ady (family of), residence of, 288
 Adye (E.), tomb of, 288
 Adye (W. and E.), memorial of, 288
 Aelfric, abbacy of, 185
 Æthelmund (King), engages in battle with Wurstan, Earl of Wiltshire, 178
 Aglionby (E.), manor of, 129
 Ailesburi (J.), chantry of, 230
 Ailesbury (Marquess of), seat of, 172, 191
 Ainge (F.), birthplace of, 12
 Ainslie (Dr.), birthplace of, 163
 Airey (Dr. A.), birthplace of, 138; benefaction of, 146
 Airey (C.), birthplace of, 138
 Airey (Dr. H.), birthplace of, 138
 Aldebury (H. and E.), guild of, 85
 Aldewynkel (J.), guild of, 88
 Aldred, arms of, 244
 Aleyn (R., and wife), guild of, 84
 Alfred (King), victories of, 173, 174, 228; memorial of, 187
 Algar, arms of, 244
 Allein (J.), birthplace of, 178
 Allis (Rev. —), seat of, 191
 Alonzo (Duke), portrait of, 120
 Alphonso (King of Naples), portrait of, 235
 Alphonsus V. (King of Sicily), arms of, 254, 255
 Alsop (—), residence of, 211
 Alsycher (R.), chaplaincy of, 82
 Alverstain (T. de), foundation of, 134
 Anderson (—), manor of, 199
 Andover (A., Viscountess), benefaction of, 145
 Angell (J. B.), seat of, 172
 Anjou (H. of), besieges Malmesbury, 175
 Anne (Queen), portrait of, 47, 49, 187
 Anne of Denmark, portrait of, 120, 122
 Anstey (C.), birthplace of, 178; death of, 184
 Antrobus (Sir E.), seat of, 171
 Appleby (R. de, Bishop of Ossory), birthplace of, 138
 Appleby (T. de, Bishop of Carlisle), birthplace of, 138
 Arden (E.), birthplace of, 12
 Arden (family of), manor of, 64
 Arden (W.), memorial window of, 55
 Arlington (Lord), portrait of, 282
 Arnold (G.), property of, 128; marriage of, 129
 Arnold (Mrs.), monument of, 129

- Arran (family of), arms of, 240
 Arundel (Lord), seat of, 171, 172 ;
 manor of, 201 ; patronage of, 201
 Arundel (M., Countess of), defends
 Wardour Castle, 319
 Arundel (T., Earl of), portrait of, 121
 Arundel of Wardour (Lord), created
 count of Holy Roman Empire, 189
 Arundell (T., Archbishop of Canter-
 bury), inscription for, 47
 Ash (Dr.), residence of, 16
 Ash (family of), manor of, 345
 Ashby (Elizabeth), marriage of, 241
 Ashcombe (J.), executorship of, 107
 Ashley (R.), birthplace of, 178
 Ashton (Lieut.-General), takes Appleby,
 138
 Askew (Dr. A.), birthplace of, 138, 161
 Aspale (G. de), priory of, 211
 Astley (A., Lord), marriage of, 128
 Astley (family of), monuments of, 129
 Astley (Giles, and wife), manor of, 128
 Astley (Sir J.), pictures commemorating
 achievements of, 15
 Astley (J. de), portrait of, 184
 Astley (Sir J. D.), seat of, 171
 Astley (T., Lord), manor of, 128
 Astley (W., Lord), manor of, 128
 Astley (—), marriage of, 128
 Astwode (T. and E.), guild of, 86
 Athelard, abbacy of, 185
 Athelstan (King), victory of, 174 ;
 burial-place of, 185, 293, 294 ; monu-
 ment of, 293, 294
 Athol (Duke of), school of, 142
 Atkin (J.), benefaction of, 64
 Atkinson (Captain), capture and execu-
 tion of, 138
 Atty (—), arms of, 101
 Atwode-de-la-Wyche (T.), guild of, 86
 Aubrey (J.), birthplace of, 178, 274 ;
 estate of, 182
 Aubrey (R. and A.), guild of, 87
 Audley (G., Lord), seat of, 172 ;
 manor of, 239
 Audley (J., Lord), arms of, 252, 253
 Audley (M., Lord), seat of, 172 ; manor
 of, 239
 Aurelius (Marcus), equestrian statue of,
 350
 Awdry (A.), seat of, 172
 Awdry (—), residence of, 190
 Ayscough (R., Bishop of Salisbury),
 murder of, 229
 Aylesbury (C., Earl of), estates of, 329
 Aylesbury (family of), arms of, 70, 71 ;
 pedigree of, 188
 Aylesford (Earls of), seat of, 7
 Bacon (Lord), portrait of, 282
 Bacon (Roger), effigies of, 241
 Badger (T.), manor of, 104
 Baggot (R.), abbacy of, 158
 Bagot (Sir. W.), purchases Baginton,
 28 ; shrievalty of, 28 ; imprisonment
 and death of, 28 ; memorial brass of,
 28
 Bailey (J.), memorial of, 123, 124
 Bainbridge (C., Archbishop of York),
 birthplace of, 138
 Bainbrigg (R.), mastership of, 140
 Baker (Dr.), farm of, 350
 Baker (J. and M.), guild of, 87
 Baker (T.), seat of, 192
 Ballard (Rev. Dr.), rectory of, 339
 Ballard (Rev. J.), memorial of, 339,
 340
 Balsale (J., and wife), guild of, 85
 Balshall (T.), benefaction of, 79 ; tomb
 of, 102
 Bamfield (family of), arms of, 249
 Bamfield (J.), marriage of, 249
 Barber (J.), benefaction of, 64 ; me-
 morial of, 37
 Barbour (T., and wife), guild of, 83
 Barlow (T., Bishop of Lincoln) ; birth-
 place of, 138
 Barnes (Sir H.), guild of, 89
 Barns (Sir H.), chaplaincy of, 82
 Barre (family of), arms of, 242
 Barre (Joan), marriage of, 241
 Bartillot (M.), guild of, 86
 Barton (Rev. —), seat of, 191
 Barwick (Dr. J.), birthplace of, 138,
 162
 Barwick (Dr. P.), birthplace of, 138,
 162
 Baskerville (J.), epitaph by, 59
 Baskerville (—), printing office of, 16
 Basnet (—), residence of, 308
 Basset (R.), estate of, 113
 Bath (Marquess of), seat of, 172 ;
 portrait of, 283
 Bathurst (F. H.), seat of, 161
 Batt (family of), monuments of, 346
 Batt (J. T.), seat of, 172, 351
 Battersbee (T.), arms of, 100
 Bavaria (A., Duke of), portrait of, 120
 Baxter (T.), seat of, 147 ; foundation
 of, 147
 Baynton (A.), memorial of, 220
 Baynton (Sir E.), seat of, 190
 Baynton (family of), manor of, 224 ;
 rebus for, 232

Beach (M. Hicks), seat of, 172
 Beauchamp (Elizabeth), marriage of, 317, 329
 Beauchamp (family of), monuments of, 11; arms of, 70, 74
 Beauchamp (G., Earl of Warwick), seizes Piers Gaveston, 8
 Beauchamp (Lady), effigies of, 232
 Beauchamp (Lord), estate of, 20
 Beauchamp (R., fifth Earl of Warwick), portrait of, 46
 Beauchamp (T., Earl of Warwick), rebuilds church at Norwich, 126; arms of, 252
 Beauchamp (W., Lord Bergavenny), marriage of, 45; portrait of, 45
 Beauchamp (—, Bishop of Salisbury), tomb of, 310
 Beaufort (E., Duke of Somerset), arms of, 253
 Beaufort (J., Marquess of Dorset), arms of, 253
 Beaufort (J. de), arms of, 244
 Beaumont (J., Viscount), arms of, 253
 Beck (J.), seat of, 6
 Beckeford (R. de), benefaction of, 257
 Beckford (F.), achievement of, 242
 Beckford (family of), arms of, 239, 240, 248, 251, 252; crest of, 257
 Beckford (P.), portrait of, 234; M.P. for Morpeth, 243; achievement of, 243
 Beckford (W.), residence of, 233; manor of, 239
 Beckford (W. H.), seat of, 243; descent of, 256, 257
 Beckham (H.), birthplace of, 178; memorial of, 187
 Beckinsau (J.), birthplace of, 178
 Bede (the Venerable), effigies of, 241
 Bedford (F., Earl of), portrait of, 121, 122
 Bedford (family of), patronage of, 114
 Bekeford (R. de), benefaction of, 257
 Belknap (family of), arms of, 70
 Bell (J.), pension of, 159
 Bell (—), school of, 142
 Bellar (H.), seat of, 137
 Bellingham (A.), birthplace of, 162
 Bellomont (family of), arms of, 240
 Benett (J.), seat of, 172
 Bennett (Dr. J.), birthplace of, 178
 Bentley (J.), foundation of, 170
 Beornwulf of Mercia, defeat of, 173
 Berkeley (family of), foundation of, 270; arms of, 292
 Berkeley (T., Lord), benefaction of, 271

Berkeley (W. de), foundation of, 168
 Bertie (Lady A.), arms of, 243
 Besill (family of), arms of, 242, 247
 Best (R. de), priory of, 211
 Betesthorpe (J.), memorial brass of, 186
 Betham (Sir T. de), monument of, 141
 Bewdeleye (W.), abbacy of, 271
 Bewick (Rev. R.), vicarage of, 196
 Biddle (J.), benefaction of, 64
 Riddulph (Sir T.), seat of, 6
 Biddulph (T.), seat of, 6
 Biggs (R.), seat of, 172
 Bingham (Bishop of Salisbury), erects bridge across the Willey, 320
 Bird (J., Bishop of Bangor and Chester), birthplace of, 12
 Bishop (W.), birthplace of, 12
 Bishopsdon (Sir W. de), parsonage of, 38
 Bishopston (P.), marriage of, 241
 Bisset (H.), foundation of, 284
 Bissett (Miss A.), seat of, 171
 Blackmore (Sir R.), birthplace of, 178
 Blanch (Lady), portrait of, 189; monument of, 189
 Bland (H.), benefaction of, 147
 Blythe (Bishop of Salisbury), monument of, 310
 Bogy (R.), mastership of, 97
 Bohun (H., Earl of Hereford), arms of, 253
 Bohun (W., Earl of Northampton), arms of, 253
 Boleyn (Queen Anne), visits Salisbury, 176
 Bolingbroke (Viscount), seat of, 172
 Bolton (J.), seat of, 137
 Bolton (T.), seat of, 172
 Bond (T.), foundation of, 5
 Bondry (Mrs.), seat of, 171
 Bonham (family of), arms of, 309
 Boniface (Pope), portrait of, 282
 Bonville (E.), marriage of, 251
 Bonville (family of), arms of, 251
 Boot (—), residence of, 24
 Boothby (S.), estate of, 21
 Bosbury (J.), chaplaincy of, 81
 Botetort (Rev. Sir J.), rectory of, 55
 Botiller (J.), guild of, 84
 Botoir (Rev. T.), rectory of, 352
 Botreaux (M.), marriage of, 244
 Botulfe (W., and wife), guild of, 84
 Bouchier (K.), marriage of, 193
 Boughton (F.), foundation of, 5
 Boulton (M.), birthplace of, 12
 Bouchier (J., Lord Berners), arms of, 254

- Boutbee (J.), seat of, 6, 7
 Bouverie (Hon. D. P.), seat of, 171
 Boveton (W.), chaplaincy of, 81; concession to, 81
 Bowen (W.), seat of, 173
 Bowes (family of), seat of, 198
 Bowes (H., Earl of Berkshire), portrait of, 198
 Bowes (Hon. J.), seat of, 6
 Bowes (Sir J.), portrait of, 198
 Bowles (Dr. H.), memorial of, 213
 Bowles (Rev. J.), residence of, 184
 Bowles (Rev. W. L.), residence of, 207; vicarage of, 182, 211; erects monuments in Salisbury Cathedral, 328
 Bowles (W.), seat of, 344
 Bowstead (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 151
 Boynton (Sir E.), grant to, 337
 Boys (A.), marriage of, 251
 Boys (family of), arms of, 251
 Bracebridge (C. H.), arms of, 101
 Bradshaw (Rev. —), vicarage of, 264
 Bradnock (G.), benefaction of, 64
 Braithwaite (D.), birthplace of, 163
 Braithwaite (J.), seat of, 137
 Braithwaite (R.), birthplace of, 139
 Branderton (family of), arms of, 242
 Brandon (C., Duke of Suffolk), arms of, 254
 Brasyer (J., and wife), guild of, 86
 Brathwaite (—), execution of, 329
 Bray (W.), school of, 18
 Bree (J.), memorial of, 66
 Bree (Rev. T.), memorial of, 66
 Bree (T.), memorial of, 65
 Brewer (S.), birthplace of, 178
 Brictric, manor of, 103
 Bridges (Colonel), defends Warwick, 12
 Bridgman (Sir O.), residence of, 52
 Bridport (Bishop of Salisbury), foundation of, 320
 Briggs (Colonel), besieges Holme House, 137, 138
 Bristow (R.), seat of, 171
 Britton (J.), arms of, 100
 Broke (Lord Willoughby de), seat of, 6
 Brokes (R., and wife), memorial brass of, 61, 62
 Brome (family of), arms of, 70
 Bromley (B.), memorial of, 31
 Bromley (Mrs. E.), memorial of, 31
 Bromley (Dr. W.), M.P. for Warwick, 30; memorial of, 31
 Bromley (Right Hon. W.), M.P. for University of Oxford, 29; for Warwick, 29; Speaker of House of Commons, 30; portrait of, 30; marriage of, 30; memorial of, 31
 Bromley (Sir W.), recovers standard of Guyenne, 29
 Bromley (Sir W. K. B.), marriage of, 29; death of, 29; memorial of, 31
 Bromley (W.), marriage of, 29; property of, 29
 Bromley (W. D.), death of, 30; memorial of, 31
 Bromley (W. T.), M.P. for Warwick, 30; marriage of, 30; memorial of, 31
 Brooke (Elizabeth), arms of, 100
 Brooke (Fulke D.), birthplace of, 13; residence of, 19; burial-place of, 19
 Brooke (Lord), garrisons Warwick, 10, 11; takes Stratford, 11; portrait of, 120
 Brooke and Warwick (Earl of), seat of, 6
 Brougham (H.), seat of, 136
 Brouman (H.), guild of, 82
 Brown (J.), property of, 147
 Brown (Rev. Dr.), vicarage of, 142
 Browne (Rev. Dr. J.), memorial of, 74
 Bruce (Lord), seat of, 172; marriage of, 329
 Brune (Elizabeth), marriage of, 247
 Brune (family of), arms of, 247
 Brune (J.), marriage of, 249
 Brune (Sir I.), marriage of, 249
 Brune (Sir M.), marriage of, 249
 Brune (Mary), marriage of, 250
 Brune (T.), marriage of, 249
 Brunskill (J.), foundation of, 145
 Buchanan (Rev. G.), vicarage of, 142
 Buck (—), highway robber, 220
 Buckingham (G., Duke of), reputed tomb of, 326
 Buckle (Sir C.), birthplace of, 139
 Buckle (C.), foundation of, 147
 Buggy (J.), chaplaincy of, 81, 82
 Bulkyer (W.), guild of, 85
 Bullen (T., Earl of Wilts), arms of, 255
 Bultys (J. and M.), guild of, 87
 Burdett (Sir F.), seat of, 172
 Burgess (Rev. A.), rectory of, 113; memorial brass of, 114
 Burgh (H. de), visits Salisbury, 175; imprisonment of, 175
 Burghershe (B., Lord), arms of, 252
 Burghill (J., Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry), inscription for, 49; grant by, 69
 Burley (family of), arms of, 309

Burley (G.), seat of, 308
 Burlington (Earl of), palace of, 329, 330
 Burn (Dr. R.), birthplace of, 139, 162
 Burn (J.), seat of, 137
 Burnet (G., Bishop of Salisbury), converts the Earl of Rochester, 187
 Burrough (Sir J.), seat of, 172
 Burton (J.), foundation of, 145; benefaction of, 145
 Butler (Dr.), school of, 18
 Butler (family of), arms of, 255
 Buttelen (J.), guild of, 89
 Buxton (J.), seat of, 172
 Byfield (N.), birthplace of, 12
 Bythesea (T.), seat of, 173

 Cade (Jack), rebellion under, 176
 Cadurcis (S. de), marriage of, 209
 Caithness (family of), arms of, 241
 Caldecott (A.), seat of, 7
 Caldecott (J.), seat of, 6
 Calley (T.), seat of, 171
 Calthorp (Mrs. D.), benefaction of, 196
 Calthorpe (family of), arms of, 59
 Calthorpe (Right Hon. Lord), monument of, 59
 Camel (K.), marriage of, 117
 Camelford (Lord), rebuilds church at Stratford-sub-Castle, 343; property of, 343, 344
 Cammel (W.), abbacy of, 292
 Campbell (Lady), marriage of, 224
 Campion (Ellen), epitaph on, 31
 Campyon (J.), guild of, 84
 Camvill (R. de), foundation of, 3
 Canning (F.), seat of, 6
 Canute (King), plunders Wilts, 174
 Canutus (R.), birthplace of, 178
 Careless (R.), residence of, 81
 Carew (family of), arms of, 251
 Carew (G.), marriage of, 21
 Carew (K.), marriage of, 251
 Carey (H., Lord Hunsdon), arms of, 254
 Carhampton (A., Lady), residence of, 115
 Carington (C., Lord), possessions of, 80
 Carleton (Sir D.), birthplace of, 279; burial-place of, 279
 Carlisle (A., Earl of), stone effigy of, 155; execution of, 155
 Carlisle (H., Earl of), portrait of, 122
 Carlisle (L., Countess of), portraits of, 120-122
 Carnarvon (Earl of), portrait of, 350
 Caroline (Queen of George II.), portrait of, 49

Carpenter (F.), marriage of, 59
 Carte (T.), birthplace of, 12
 Carter (E.), pension of, 159
 Carter (—), residence of, 72
 Cartwright (T.), burial-place of, 19
 Cary (Lady D.), portrait of, 197
 Cary (L., Lady), portrait of, 197
 Cary (family of), arms of, 256
 Catcott (J.), bailiff of Edington, 231
 Catesby (family of), achievements of, 241; arms of, 242
 Catesby (J.), achievement of, 242; manor of, 242
 Catesby (Sir W.), arms of, 241; marriage of, 241
 Catharine of Arragon (Queen), visits Salisbury, 176
 Cattell (Rev. T.), vicarage of, 32
 Caunter (T.), guild of, 88
 Cavanagh (family of), arms of, 255
 Cave (E.), birthplace of, 12; school of, 18
 Cave (family of), hostelry of, 16
 Cave (J.), burial-place of, 118
 Ceaulin, defeat of, 173
 Cecil (E., Countess of Berkshire), portrait of, 198
 Cecil (W., Lord Burghley), arms of, 254
 Cenwellus (King of Wessex), defeat of, 173
 Ceolric, victory of, 173
 Cerdic besieges Banbury Castle, 173
 Chadwick (C. S.), residence of, 111
 Chamberlaine (C.), M.P. for Wilts, 192; seat of, 192
 Chambers (E.), birthplace of, 139, 162; school of, 142
 Chambers (Miss), seat of, 7
 Chambers (—), burial-place of, 142
 Chambré (Sir A.), birthplace of, 139, 163
 Champernowae (Elizabeth), marriage of, 250, 251
 Champernowne (family of), arms of, 250
 Champernowne (H.), marriage of, 251
 Champernowne (R.), marriage of, 251
 Champernowne (Sir A.), marriage of, 251
 Champernowne (Sir J.), marriage of, 251
 Champernowne (Sir P.), marriage of, 251
 Champernowne (W.), marriage of, 251
 Chandler (M.), birthplace of, 178
 Chandos Leigh (J.), seat of, 7

- Charles I. appears before Coventry, 10; entertained at Aston, 11; at Birmingham, 11; footstool of, 23; portraits of, 19, 49, 120-122, 197, 282; state chair of, 23; visits Malmesbury, 177, 285; and Salisbury, 177; arms of, 323
- Charles II. entertained at Heale House, 344; at Longleat, 177; at Salisbury, 178; at Wilton, 177, 178; in disguise at Long Marston, 24; letter of, 24; portraits of, 17, 49, 282; proclaimed king at Salisbury, 177; visits Crosby Gill, 138
- Chatham (Earl of), birthplace of, 180, 343; M.P. for Old Sarum, 186; property of, 346
- Chaz (I. de), benefactions of, 276; epitaph on, 274-276; memorial of, 299, 300
- Chebure (E.), guild of, 86
- Cheney (Sir J.), monument of, 310, 317
- Cherleton (E., Lord), arms of, 253
- Chesnale (Rev. H.), rectory of, 97; benefaction of, 97, 98
- Chester (Hugh, Earl of), foundation of, 17
- Chester (R., Earl of), castle of, 4; besieges Coventry, 7; repulse of, 8
- Chester (R.), marriage of, 30
- Chetwynd (Sir G.), seat of, 6
- Cheyne (E.), marriage of, 232
- Cheyne (family of), manor of, 232
- Cheyne (R.), marriage of, 232
- Childerley (family of), arms of, 251
- Childerley (T.), marriage of, 251
- Chillingworth (W.), memorial of, 328
- Chillingworth (—), residence of, 177
- Chilmarke (J. de), birthplace of, 179
- Chubb (T.), birthplace of, 179
- Clapton (Sir H.), buildings erected by, 77
- Clarence (G., Duke of, and I., his wife), guild of, 92
- Clarendon (Lord Chancellor), birthplace of, 192
- Clarendon (R. de), birthplace of, 179
- Claridge (R.), birthplace of, 12
- Clarke (S.), birthplace of, 13
- Clement (Gregory), estate of, 308
- Cleveland (Duchess of), portrait of, 17
- Clifford (Lord), seat of, 41; foundation of, 133
- Clifford (family of), residence of, 140; monuments of, 141
- Clifford (G., Earl of Cumberland), birthplace of, 139
- Clifford (H., Earl of Cumberland), arms of, 254
- Clifford (J., Lord), arms of, 253
- Clifford (T.), manor of, 160
- Clinton (E., Lady), foundation of, 69
- Clinton (family of), monuments of, 16
- Clinton (G. de), foundation of, 3; castle of, 4
- Clinton (W. de), foundation of, 3; castle of, 4
- Clonmel (Earl of), seat of, 7
- Clonne (H.), guild of, 86
- Clopton (Sir H.), birthplace of, 13; residence of, 16; buildings erected by, 77
- Clopton (H.), guild of, 88
- Clopton (Joyce), marriage of, 21
- Clopton (J.), guild of, 87
- Clopton (Lady J.), guild of, 86
- Clopton (T.), alderman of Guild of Holy Cross, 97; buildings erected by, 24
- Clopton (W.), marriage of, 21
- Close (N., Bishop of Lichfield), birthplace of, 139
- Clutterbuck (T.), seat of, 171
- Cobham (R., Lord), arms of, 253
- Cockaine (Sir W.), birthplace of, 13
- Codrington (Sir C. B.), seat of, 171
- Codrington (Mrs.), seat of, 173
- Coker (family of), arms of, 250; monuments of, 269
- Colebrand, the Dane, slaughter of, 7
- Colepeper (family of), arms of, 255
- Collier (J.), memorial of, 339
- Collier (Rev. L.), memorial of, 339
- Collingwode (R., Dean of Lichfield), foundation of, 79
- Collinson (Rev. J.) birthplace of, 179, 182
- Collinson (Rev. S.), foundation of, 151; monument of, 151
- Colyer (J. and M.), guild of, 87
- Combe (John à), effigy of, 103
- Commin (W.), manor of, 104
- Compton (H., Bishop of London), birthplace of, 13
- Compton (Mrs.), residence of, 346
- Comyn (family of), arms of, 240
- Condé (Princess of), portrait of, 282
- Conyers (Sir J.), orders execution of Earl Rivers, 9
- Cook (R. and A.), guild of, 88
- Cooke (A.), foundation of, 69
- Cooke (W., Canon of Lincoln), erects chapel at Knowle, 4, 69; foundation of, 69, 71; preferments of, 69

- Cooke (Rev. —), vicarage of, 291
 Cooper (G.), residence of, 77
 Cooper (J.), residence of, 343
 Coote (Sir Eyre), burial-place of, 351
 Coppe (A.), birthplace of, 13
 Corbicon (P.), foundation of, 3
 Cornwall (E., Earl of), foundation of, 230
 Cospatrick (T., son of), foundation of, 133, 157; burial-place of, 158
 Coton (C.), guild of, 87
 Cottington (F., Lord), birthplace of, 179; manor of, 239
 Courtenay (family of), arms of, 251
 Courtenay (H., Earl of Devon), arms of, 252
 Courtenay (M.), marriage of, 251
 Coventry (Earls of), manor of, 129
 Coventry (Lord), portrait of, 282
 Coventry (V. de), birthplace of, 13
 Coventry (W. de), birthplace of, 13
 Coverdale (M., Bishop of Exeter), ejection of, 112
 Coward (family of), arms of, 242
 Coward (W.), marriage of, 248
 Cowper (Rev. A.), rectory of, 82; guild of, 82
 Cowper (J., and wife), guild of, 84
 Cowper (J. and A.), guild of, 85
 Cox (Rev. T.), vicarage of, 56
 Cox (—), manor of, 199
 Coxe (Venerable Archdeacon), rectories of, 182, 184
 Coxe (C. W.), residence of, 285
 Crackenthorpe (R.), birthplace of, 139
 Cranmer (A., Bishop), portrait of, 65
 Crauford (E.), marriage of, 242
 Crauford (family of), arms of, 241, 242
 Crauford (J.), birthplace of, 13
 Craven (Earl of), seat of, 6; arms of, 100
 Craven (F.), seat of, 171
 Creed (Rev. Dr.), rectory of, 183
 Creswell (E.), seat of, 172
 Creswell (T. E.), residence of, 285
 Crispin (M.), manor of, 277
 Croft (Rev. Dr. G.), memorial of, 36
 Croft (W.), birthplace of, 13
 Cromwell (Oliver), besieges Devizes, 177; portrait of, 182
 Croxall (E.), seat of, 7
 Cumberland (H., Earl of), patronage of, 158
 Cunnington (W.), memorial of, 184
 Curcelles (R. de), castle of, 169
 Curwen (Lady E.), benefaction of, 146
 Curwen (H.), seat of, 137
 Cuthred (King of Wessex), victory of, 7; defeat of, 173
 Dabridgecourt (J., and wives), memorial of, 71, 72
 Dabridgecourt (T.), benefaction of, 70; marriage of, 70; portrait of, 70
 Dacres (Rev. E.), tomb of, 57
 Dacres (T., Lord), arms of, 254
 Dalston (family of), burial-place of, 156
 Dalton (Rev. R.), rectory of, 199; memorial of, 199
 Danby (H., Earl of), birthplace of, 179, 225; foundation of, 225; portrait of, 225; burial-place of, 225
 Dantsey (W.), foundation of, 171
 Danvers (Sir J.), monument of, 225
 Darcy (family of), arms of, 255
 Darell (E.), marriage of, 250
 Darell (family of), arms of, 250; manor of, 277
 Darrell (family of), seat of, 221
 Darwall (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 56
 Davenport (B.), marriage of, 30
 Davenport (C.), birthplace of, 13
 Davenport (Rev. Dr.), vicarage of, 76; arms of, 100
 Davenport (J.), birthplace of, 13
 Davenport (Rev. W.), estate of, 30; assumes name of Bromley, 30; marriages of, 31; residence of, 31
 David (King of Scotland), visits Clarendon, 176
 Davies (Lady E.), birthplace of, 179
 Davies (Sir J.), birthplace of, 179
 Davis (J.), seat of, 171
 Davis (Lady M.), birthplace of, 179
 Davis (T.), residence of, 184
 Dawes (Dr. L.), birthplace of, 139; foundation of, 136, 145, 154
 Dawes (T.), benefaction of, 64
 Dawney (—), burial-place of, 109; accident at funeral of, 109
 Dawson (Lady L. M.), marriage of, 31
 Dawson (Dr. R.), birthplace of, 162
 Dawson (J.), pension of, 159
 Deane (Rev. —), rectory of, 192
 De Arden (family of), manor of, 169
 Decon (T.), guild of, 88
 De la Pole (E.), marriage of, 249
 De la Pole (family of), arms of, 249
 Delany (M.), birthplace of, 179
 De la Vache (Sir F.), arms of, 253
 Delawarr (Earl), arms of, 100
 Denbigh (Earl of), seat of, 6, 7
 Dent (W.), birthplace of, 145; benefaction of, 145

- De Owe (W., Earl), impeachment of, 174
d'Eperton (Duke), portrait of, 122
Despenser (I.), marriage of, 46
De Stafford (family of), arms of, 292
Deverell (J.), property of, 331
Devereux (Sir E.), monument of, 27
Devereux (Sir J.), arms of, 253
Devereux (Sir W.), foundation of, 5
Devizes (R. of), birthplace of, 179
Dewes (C.), seat of, 7
Dickenson (Mrs.), seats of, 171, 172
Dickenson (—), seat of, 190
Digall (T.), benefaction of, 64
Digby (family of), memorials of, 16
Digby (J., Earl of Bristol), birthplace of, 13
Digby (Mrs.), portrait of, 121, 122
Digby (W.), seat of, 6
Dilke (W.), seat of, 6
Ditton (H.), birthplace of, 179
Dobson (M.), birthplace of, 179
Docwra (J.), marriage of, 118
Docwra (Sir T.), arms of, 117
Dormer (Lord), seat of, 6
Douglas (family of), arms of, 235, 241
Douglas of Dalkeith, arms of, 241
Dousset (D.), memorial of, 70
Dousset (J.), memorial of, 70
Dover (R.), residence of, 15; institutes
Cotswold games, 104
Dover (—), marriage of, 105
Dowle (K.), guild of, 87
Drax (T.), birthplace of, 13
Drayton (M.), birthplace of, 13
Drewe ((family of), arms of, 247
Drogo, grant to, 338
Dryden (C.), birthplace of, 179
Duck (S.), birthplace of, 179; residence
of, 183
Ducket (L.), birthplace of, 162
Dudley (A., Earl of Warwick), enter-
tains Queen Elizabeth, 67
Dudley (A., Duchess of), monument of,
18
Dudley (family of), arms of, 119
Dudley (Lord), arms of, 55
Dudley (R.), guild of, 85; created
Duke of Northumberland, 119
Duffosy (A.), manufactory of, 189
Dugdale (D. S.), seat of, 6
Dugdale (Sir W.), birthplace of, 13;
residence of, 16, 52; school of, 17;
burial-place of, 18
Duke (Rev. E.), seat of, 172
Duncumbe (J.), wardenship of, 108
Dundonald (I., Countess of), marriage
of, 346; monument erected by, 346
Dunmail, kingdom of, 137
Dunwallo Malmutius, castle of, 169
Duppa (B., Bishop of Salisbury), pre-
ceptor to Charles II., 186, 187
Dyall (G.), benefaction of, 64
Dyalls (T.), benefaction of, 64
Dyson (R.), manor of, 104
Eadsigus, defeat of, 174
Eardley (Lord), M. P. for Coventry, 49
Eardley (Hon. W.), monument of, 33
Eardley Wilmot (E. E.), monument of,
33
Eardley Wilmot (Sir J.), seat of, 6, 32;
Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas,
32; monument of, 32, 33
Eardley Wilmot (J.), monument of, 33
Earle (A.), memorial of, 224
Earle (G.), benefaction of, 195, 196;
memorial of, 196
Eberall (J.), memorial of, 65
Eborall (D.), arms of, 70
Edgar (King), holds council at Old
Sarum, 174
Edington (W. de, Bishop of Winches-
ter), birthplace of, 179, 229; founda-
tion of, 229, 230; buildings of, 229;
burial-place of, 230
Edis (W. and M.), monument of, 65
Edmund wasted Cumbria, 137; cruel-
ties of, 137
Edmund Ironsides (King), defeats the
Danes, 174
Edric destroys nunnery at Coventry, 7
Edridge (T.), seat of, 172
Edward the Confessor, arms of, 22
Edward I., grant by, 338
Edward II. beheads A. Herclay, Earl
of Carlisle, 155; summons Parlia-
ment to Clarendon, 176
Edward III. visits Clarendon, 176;
portrait of, 235; arms of, 252; grant
by, 305
Edward IV., arms of, 66, 128; escapes
from Middleham, 66; imprisons the
Earl of Warwick, 9; visits Coventry,
9; Malmesbury, 176; Salisbury,
176
Edward VI., foundations of, 5, 34, 170;
bust of, 115; benefaction of, 146
Edwards (B.), birthplace of, 179
Edwin, slaughter of, by Ethelred, 137
Eedes (J.), birthplace of, 179
Effingham (E., Countess of), achieve-
ment of, 243; marriages of, 243
Effingham (T. H., Earl of), marriage
of, 243

- Egbert (King of Wessex), foundation of, 4; victory of, 173
 Egerton (F. T.), seat of, 172
 Ela (Countess of Salisbury), foundation of, 306, 320
 Elborow (R.), foundation of, 5
 Elburga (Princess), foundation of, 168
 Elf, slaughter of, by Ethred, 137
 Elfrida (Queen), foundation of, 168
 Elizabeth (Queen), arms of, 323; benefaction of, 146; foundations of, 136, 144, 170; portraits of, 47, 49, 120; visits Clarendon, 176; Compton, 10; Coventry, 10, 67; Kenilworth, 10, 67; Littlecote, 279, 280; Longford, 185; Warwick, 10
 Elizabeth (Queen of Bohemia), entertained at Combe Abbey, 17; portrait of, 17
 Ellis (J.), foundation of, 170
 Elmeley (J.), chaplaincy of, 80, 81; concession to, 80
 Elmys (T. and A.), guild of, 84
 Erasmus, portrait of, 185
 Erdington (family of), arms of, 25; monuments of, 26
 Erdington (H.), buildings of, 26; marriage of, 26
 Erdington (Sir H. de), marriage of, 128
 Erdington (Sir J.), marriage of, 26; foundation of, 26
 Ergam (R., Bishop of Salisbury), penances imposed by, 318, 320
 Erle (family of), arms of, 195; manor of, 194
 Erle (T.), memorial brass of, 224
 Escuin (Governor of Wessex), victory of, 173
 Essex (D., Earl of), portraits of, 111, 120, 122, 198, 282
 Essex (R., Earl of), manor of, 69
 Estcourt (family of), monuments of, 224
 Estcourt (T.), residence of, 285
 Estcourt (T. B. G.), seats of, 171, 172
 Esturmy (family of), estates of, 329
 Esturmy (M.), marriage of, 329
 Ethelfleda, castle of, 4, 7, 183
 Ethelred (King), defeat of, 173; murders Danes, 174; grant by, 331
 Ethelwald (King of Mercia), death of, 7; raid of, into Wilts, 174
 Ethelwulf (King), foundation of, 4; manor of, 224; visits Chippenham, 173; execution of, 173
 Ethred slays Elf and Edwin, 137
 Evans (Rev. —), mastership of, 200
 Evats (B.), benefaction of, 64
 Evelyn (E.), marriage of, 348
 Evelyn (family of), residences of, 349; memorials of, 189, 349
 Evelyn (Sir J.), seat of, 348
 Evenwode (R.), abbacy of, 158
 Everett (J.), seat of, 171
 Exeter (Countess of), portrait of, 198
 Eyre (E. and M.), birthplace of, 267
 Eyre (family of), manor of, 264; monuments of, 326
 Eyre (G.), foundation of, 170
 Eyre (J., Lord Chief Baron), birthplace of, 179; school of, 187
 Eyre (Rev. W.), birthplace of, 179
 Eyre (Sir J.), marriage of, 261
 Fane (Rev. A.), vicarage of, 347
 Fane (Viscount), marriage of, 23
 Farquhar (J.), seat of, 171
 Fauquier (Mrs.), seat of, 7
 Fawkes (W.), benefaction of, 57; residence of, 57
 Featherstone (—), seat of, 7
 Fell (Rev. Dr.), birthplace of, 162; foundation of, 162
 Feltham (J.), birthplace of, 179
 Fenley (R., and family), memorials of, 272
 Fentham (G.), benefaction of, 62
 Ferer (A. de la), grant by, 332
 Ferrars (D.), marriage of, 27
 Ferrers (E.), seat of, 6
 Ferrers (Sir E.), arms of, 70
 Ferrers (R., Earl), foundation of, 3
 fiabyan (T.), guild of, 88
 Fillol (family of), arms of, 250
 Fillol (K.), marriage of, 250
 Fischer (Sir C.), benefaction of, 64
 Fisher (J.), benefaction of, 64
 Fitzalan (R., Earl of Arundel), arms of, 253
 Fitzgerald (family of), arms of, 255
 Fitzgerald (G., Earl of Kildare), arms of, 254
 Fitzhardinge (R.), besieged at Devizes, 192
 Fitzherbert (R.), execution of, 175
 Fitzhugh (H., Lord), arms of, 253
 Fitzjohn (E.), marriage of, 223
 Fitzjohn of Heytesbury (family of), arms of, 223
 Fitzosbert (family of), arms of, 240
 Fitzpier (G., Lord Chief Justice), castle of, 192, 193; created Earl of Essex, 193; death of, 193
 Fitzwarren (family of), manor of, 264
 Fleming (Rev. J.), seat of, 137

- Fleming (Mrs.), seat of, 136
 Fleming (Sir R.), seat of, 137
 Fletcher (T.), foundation of, 136, 147
 Ford (Rev. J.), rectory of, 340
 Ford (W.), foundation of, 5
 Forley (J.), chaplaincy of, 81
 Forman (S.), birthplace of, 179
 Fort (G.), seat of, 171, 351
 Foster (family of), patronage of, 129 ;
 burial-place of, 129
 Foster (J.), memorial of, 25 ; manor
 of, 129
 Foster (Sir M.), birthplace of, 179 ;
 school of, 186
 Foster (S.), birthplace of, 13
 Fothergill (A.), memorial of, 157
 Fothergill (Dr. G.), birthplace of, 139 ;
 school of, 142 ; memorial of, 156
 Fothergill (Dr. J.), birthplace of, 162
 Fothergill (T.), birthplace of, 139, 147,
 162 ; foundation of, 136, 147 ; death
 of, 157
 Fowle (W.), seat of, 171
 Fowler (C.), birthplace of, 179
 Fowler (T.), manor of, 104
 Fox (R.), guild of, 88
 Fraser (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 220
 Frederick V. of Bohemia, portrait of,
 17
 Freeland (family of), arms of, 243
 Freeling (Sir F.), arms of, 101
 Freeman (E.), marriage of, 105 ; burial-
 place of, 105
 Freeman (family of), residence of, 104
 Freeman (J.), marriage of, 105 ; pro-
 perty of, 105 ; burial-place of, 105
 Freeman (M.), marriage of, 105
 Freeman (R.), burial-place of, 105
 Freeman (Rev. W.), rectory of, 105 ;
 manor of, 105 ; marriage of, 105
 Freeman (S.), marriage of, 105
 Freeman (W.), manor of, 104, 105
 Freer (J. B.), arms of, 101
 Frethericus de Bissopesdone, lands of,
 38
 Fuller (J.), seat of, 172
 Furnass (A. de), foundation of, 134

 Gale (E. M.), seat of, 7
 Galloway (family of), arms of, 240
 Galton (S.), seat of, 6
 Galton (S. T.), seat of, 6
 Gardiner (E.), benefaction of, 64
 Garnett (Dr. T.), birthplace of, 139,
 162
 Garnett (R.), residence of, 114
 Garrick (D.), presentation to, 77

 Gaskarth (Rev. —), rectory of, 198 ;
 portrait of, 198
 Gastrell (J.), memorial of, 197
 Gastrell (Rev. F.), cuts down Shake-
 speare's mulberry-tree, 19, 76
 Gaunt (John of), portrait of, 235 ; arms
 of, 255
 Gaveston (Piers), execution of, 8, 16
 Gawler (Mrs.), property of, 263
 Gay, the poet, monument of, 200
 Geffer (W.), benefaction of, 55
 George I., portrait of, 49 ; reviews
 troops at Salisbury, 178
 George II., portrait of, 49
 George III., portraits of, 49, 120 ;
 entertained at Longleat, 178, 283 ;
 at Salisbury, 178 ; at Wilton, 178
 Gernons (family of), arms of, 240
 Ghest (E.), memorial brass of, 314
 Gibbons (Rev. R.), vicarage of, 56
 Gibbus (J., and wife), guild of, 83
 Gibson (E., Bishop of London), birth-
 place of, 139, 162 ; school of, 141 ;
 monument erected by, 141
 Gibson (G.), foundation of, 136, 145
 Gibson (J.), seat of, 137
 Gibson (T.), birthplace of, 139
 Gibson (W.), birthplace of, 139
 Giddons (J. and H.), burial-place of,
 346
 Giffard (A.), surrenders manor to King
 John, 239
 Giffard (family of), manor of, 238 ;
 tombs of, 182
 Gifford (Sir O.), abducts nuns from
 Wilton, 189
 Gilbert (J.), seat of, 172
 Goddard (A.), seat of, 172
 Goddys (W.), guild of, 85
 Goderd (R., and wife), guild of, 86
 Godiva (Countess), foundation of, 3 ;
 portrait of, 47, 50, 53
 Godric, manor of, 277
 Gudsalve (—), benefaction of, 146
 Goffe (W.), birthplace of, 179
 Gooch (Rev. F.), rectory of, 31
 Gooch (—), marriage of, 31
 Goode (J., and wife), guild of, 87
 Goodman (J.), seat of, 172
 Goodwin (family of), arms of, 247
 Gordon (Lady M.), marriage of, 248
 Gordon Aboyne (family of), arms of,
 255
 Gore (family of), monuments of, 199, 200
 Gore (S.), guild of, 82
 Gore (T.), birthplace of, 179, 182 ;
 burial-place of, 182

- Gough (B.), monument of, 58
 Gough (family of), arms of, 58
 Gough (Sir H.), monument of, 59
 Gough (R.), monument of, 58
 Gouis (family of), arms of, 248
 Gouis (J. de), marriage of, 248
 Grahame (Hon. J.), memorial of, 197
 Grantmesnil (family of), arms of, 240
 Granville (Rev. J.), takes down Honily manor-house, 66
 Gray (E.), marriage of, 105
 Gray (E. O.), residence of, 105, 106
 Gray (—), marriage of, 105
 Greathead (S.), seat of, 172
 Greathead (B.), seat of, 6
 Greaves (R.), seat of, 137
 Green (T.), birthplace of, 13
 Greene (E.), marriage of, 247
 Greene (family of), arms of, 247
 Greene (Rev. J.), rectory of, 20
 Greene (J.), marriage of, 249
 Greene (T.), seat of, 137
 Greenhill (J.), birthplace of, 179
 Gregory (Colonel), seat of, 7
 Grene (T. and A.), guild of, 88
 Gresham (Sir T.), portrait of, 282
 Greswold (M.), marriage of, 71
 Greville (F., Lord Brooke), birthplace of, 13; residence of, 19; manor of, 69; portrait of, 120, 121; burial-place of, 19
 Greville (Sir F., and Lady), tomb of, 15
 Grew (Rev. Dr.), vicarage of, 17
 Grew (N.), birthplace of, 13
 Grew (O.), birthplace of, 13
 Grey (Sir J.), arms of, 253
 Grey de Wilton (A., Lord), arms of, 254
 Griffith (A.), marriage of, 21
 Griffith (Rev. —), seat of, 171
 Grimes (A.), seat of, 6
 Grimshaw (M.), memorial of, 71
 Grimshaw (R.), death of, 71; children of, 71
 Grimstone (Sir H.), portrait of, 202
 Grossett (J.), seat of, 172
 Grove (A.), memorial brass of, 35
 Grove (Dr.), residence of, 316
 Grove (H.), residence of, 189; execution of, 189
 Grove (Mrs.), seat of, 173
 Grove (T.), seat of, 171, 191
 Grubbe (J. H.), seat of, 171
 Gundred (Countess of Warwick), cedes Warwick to Henry II., 8
 Guy (Earl of Warwick), residence of, 4, 7; slays Colebrand, 7; burial-place of, 17; statue of, 17, 18
 Guynsoye (Sir H.), guild of, 89
 Gwadyr (family of), arms of, 240
 Gylberd (R.), guild of, 82
 Gyles (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 195, 196
 Hacket (family of), property of, 114
 Hackwell (A.), benefaction of, 197
 Hales (J.), foundation of, 5
 Halford (A.), memorial of, 60
 Halford (Sir H.), school of, 18
 Hall (B.), marriage of, 248
 Hall (family of), arms of, 242, 247
 Hall (John), marriage of, 250
 Hall (Sir T.), marriage of, 247, 251
 Hamilton (J., Earl of Arran), arms of, 240
 Hamilton (J., Lord), arms of, 240, 244
 Hamilton (J., Marquess of), arms of, 254
 Hamilton (M.), marriage of, 248
 Hamton (family of), manor of, 64
 Hanbury (T.), rectory of, 271
 Hanckford (family of), arms of, 255, 256
 Hancock (Dr.), robbed at Chapel Plaster, 220
 Hannys (R. and A.), guild of, 88
 Hanson (T.), memorial of, 59
 Hanstead (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 56
 Harcourt (family of), arms of, 25, 26
 Harcourt (Sir W.), stewardship of, 26
 Harden (J.), seat of, 136
 Harding (W.), benefaction of, 64
 Hardwicke (family of), manor of, 224
 Hardyng (J.), guild of, 85
 Harewell (family of), memorials of, 196
 Harman (Bishop of Exeter), birthplace of, 15; foundation of, 5; buildings erected by, 108, 109; benefactions of, 114; residence of, 114; monument of, 112; arms of, 114
 Harrington (J., Lord), birthplace of, 13
 Harris (Rt. Hon. Lady E.), memorial of, 316
 Harris (E.), memorial of, 316
 Harris (J.), birthplace of, 180; memorial of, 316, 317
 Harris (J. P.), memorial of, 316
 Harris (Miss), seat of, 171
 Harris (T.), memorial of, 316
 Harris (Dr. W.), birthplace of, 180
 Harrison (S.), marriage of, 105
 Harrison (General T.), occupies Appleby, 138

- Hart (T.), residence of, 75, 77, 78 ;
genealogy of, 78
Harte (W.), birthplace of, 180 ; school
of, 186
Hartford (Rev. D.), rectory of, 196 ;
memorial of, 224
Hartopp (Sir E. C.), seat of, 6, 113,
115
Hartwell (Rev. G.), rectory of, 196
Harvey (Sir F.), seat of, 171
Haselden (family of), arms of, 118
Haselden (J.), seat of, 118
Haselden (K.), marriage of, 118
Haseldine (Rev. W.), memorial of, 225,
226
Hasted (Rev. G.), rectory of, 196
Hastings (family of), arms of, 248
Hastings (H. de), governor of Kenil-
worth, 8
Hastings (M.), marriage of, 248
Hastings (W., Lord), arms of, 254
Hastings (Warren), memorial of, 186
Hathaway (Anne), residence of, 18
Haughton (M.), memorial of, 36
Hawes (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 56
Hawes (Rev. —), seat of, 192
Hawkins (G.), seat of, 171
Hawles (J.), birthplace of, 180
Hayter (R.), birthplace of, 180
Hazeldine (Rev. Dr.), rectory of, 192
Heathcote (S.), seat of, 172
Heathcote (—), residence of, 190
Helyar (Mrs.), seat of, 172
Heneage (Miss), seat of, 171
Henrietta Maria (Queen), at Kington,
12 ; Oxford, 12 ; Stratford, 11 ; por-
traits of, 120, 122, 282
Henry I., holds court at Old Sarum,
175
Henry II., occupies Warwick, 8 ;
foundations of, 168, 336 ; holds
court at Clarendon, 175
Henry III., takes Kenilworth, 8 ; visits
Salisbury, 175
Henry IV., wages battle with T.
Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, 9, 28.
Henry V., visits Guy's Cliff, 17
Henry VI., visits Coventry, 9, 49 ;
Kenilworth, 9 ; Salisbury, 176 ;
statue of, 47, 50
Henry VII., visits Atherstone, 28 ;
Coventry, 10 ; Salisbury, 176 ; por-
trait of, 235 ; arms of, 254
Henry VIII., visits Coventry, 10 ;
Malmesbury, 185 ; Salisbury, 176 ;
marriage of, to Lady J. Seymour,
188 ; portrait of, 282
Henry IV. of France, portrait of, 122
Henxman (E.), seat of, 172
Henxman (H.), seat of, 171
Hepp (M. de), lands of, 158
Herbert (family of), manufactory of,
189
Herbert (Rev. G.), rectory of, 182
Herbert (P., Earl of Pembroke), birth-
place of, 180
Herbert (Mary), opposes Royalists at
Birmingham, 11
Herbert (W., Earl of Pembroke), birth-
place of, 180
Herclay (A., Earl of Carlisle), stone
effigy of, 155 ; execution of, 155
Herd, the "Cork lad of Kentmere,"
exploits of, 142 ; death of, 142
Hering (family of), arms of, 240, 248
Hering (J.), manor of, 240
Herman (Bishop), unites dioceses of
Dorset and Wilts, 303 ; buildings of,
at Old Sarum, 304
Hertford (Marquess of), seat of, 7 ;
arms of, 100
Hertford (Viscount), monument of, 27
Herthul (Sir R.), estate of, 28
Hewer (Rev. J.), rectory of, 199 ; me-
morial of, 199
Hickman (Rev. T.), rectory of, 189
Hicks-Beach (M.), seat of, 172
Highmore (J.), birthplace of, 147 ;
foundation of, 136, 147, 148
Hilditch (W.), churchwarden of Mal-
mesbury, 285
Hill (E.), marriage of, 221
Hill (J., and wife), memorials of, 220,
221
Hill (W.), birthplace of, 13
Hinckley (J.), birthplace of, 13
Hiorne (F.), buildings erected by, 124 ;
memorial of, 124
Hiorne (W. and F.), memorials of, 124
Hixon (M.), arms of, 57 ; memorial of,
57
Hoare (Hon. H.), monument of, 343
Hoare (H.), seat of, 191 ; memorial of,
187
Hoare (H., and wife), burial-place of,
341, 342 ; memorial of, 342
Hoare (Sir R. Colt), seat of, 169, 172,
187, 237 ; repairs family tombs at
Stourton, 342 ; monument of, 343
Hobbes (E.), memorial brass of, 294
Hobbes (T.), birthplace of, 180, 294
Hody (family of), arms of, 249
Hody (J.), marriage of, 249
Hogarth (R.), birthplace of, 162

- Hogford (H.), manor of, 129
 Hoggerd (family of), residence of, 143
 Holbech (Mrs.), seat of, 7
 Holbech (W.), seat of, 6
 Holbeche (A.), benefaction of, 72
 Holbourne (Lady A.), arms of, 119
 Holden (family of), property of, 26
 Holland (J., Duke of Exeter), arms of, 252
 Holland (T., Earl of Kent), arms of, 252
 Holland (Dr. P.), presents cup to James I., 16; monument of, 17
 Holle (R.), secretaryship of, 81
 Hollinworth (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 196
 Holme (A.), foundation of, 146, 147
 Holt (E., and wife), monument of, 27
 Holt (Sir H.), marriage of, 26
 Holt (Sir R.), benefaction of, 27
 Holt (Sarah, Lady), residence of, 27
 Holt (Sir T.), benefaction of, 27; entertains Charles I., 11, 27
 Holt (T., and wife), memorial brass of, 27; marriage of, 27
 Holt (W., and wife), tomb of, 27
 Holte (Sir L.), manor of, 109
 Holyoake (F.), birthplace of, 13; seat of, 7
 Holyoake (J.), purchases Brooke House, Stratford, 80
 Holyoake (T.), birthplace of, 13
 Hoo (T., Lord), arms of, 252
 Hood (Viscount), seat of, 7
 Hooker (R.), memorial of, 328
 Hopper (W., and wife), guild of, 86
 Horman (W.), birthplace of, 180
 Hornby (E.), seat of, 137
 Horsey (Sir J.), property of, 281
 Houlron (Colonel), seat of, 171
 Hout (J. and A.), guild of, 85
 Howard (Hon. Colonel), seat of, 137
 Howard (E.), portrait of, 197
 Howe (family of), mansion of, 201; portraits of, 202
 Howard (Sir G.), marriage of, 243
 Howard (J., Duke of Norfolk), arms of, 254
 Howard (W., Earl of Berkshire), portrait of, 197
 Howard (—), seat of, 173
 Howe (G.), monument of, 202
 Hubald (H.), manor of, 103, 104
 Hubert (Archbishop of Canterbury), foundation of, 168; reduces Marlborough Castle, 175
 Hudde (J. and M.), guild of, 86
 Hudson (W.), birthplace of, 139
 Hues (J.), guild of, 88
 Hughes (J.), birthplace of, 180; property of, 106; short biography of, 106, 107; will of, 107, 108; arms of, 108
 Hughes (M.), manor of, 106
 Hughes (W.), marriage of, 105
 Hugitt (R.), memorial of, 233
 Hull (C.), marriage of, 248
 Hull (family of), arms of, 248
 Hume (A.), seat of, 6
 Humphries (M.), seat of, 172
 Hungerford (A.), arms of, 349
 Hungerford (Sir C.), seizes Wardour Castle, 177
 Hungerford (family of), seat of, 184; arms of, 194; estate of, 239
 Hungerford (M., Lady), will of, 247
 Hungerford (R., Lord), foundation of, 170; marriage of, 244
 Hungerford (Sir T.), manor of, 345
 Hungerford (W., Lord), arms of, 253; buildings of, 311; tomb of, 310
 Hungerford (Sir W. de), arms of, 223; marriage of, 223
 Hunlavinton (R. de), chapel of, 224
 Hunt (J.), residence of, 80; sells Brook House, Stratford, 80
 Hunt (R.), purchases Brook House, Stratford, 80
 Huntingdon (W., Earl of), arms of, 240
 Huntley (Marquess of), portrait of, 122
 Hussey (family of), manor of, 345
 Hussey (—), improvements of at Salisbury, 315
 Hutchinson (Mrs. D.), memorial of, 57
 Hutton (H. de), foundation of, 4
 Hutton (Sir R.), birthplace of, 162
 Hutton (Rev. W.), vicarage of, 141
 Hutton (—), residence of, destroyed by fire, 12
 Huyron (A.), residence of, 81
 Hyde (A., Bishop of Salisbury), birthplace of, 180
 Hyde (E., Earl of Clarendon), birthplace of, 180
 Hyde (Lord), patronage of, 193
 Hyde (Sir N.), birthplace of, 180
 Hykks (S. and A.), guild of, 87
 Ina (King of Wessex), reputed palace of, 183, 184
 Inchiquin (Lord), exploits of, in the Civil War, 177
 Inge (E.), seat of, 6
 Ingham (O. de), property of, 348
 Ingram (family of), residence of, 73

- Ingram (Rev. L.), rectory of, 196
 Iremonger (J.), guild of, 82
 Irnham (Lord), seat of, 113
- Jackson (R.), mastership of, 146
 Jago (R.), birthplace of, 13
 Jakemon (J.), guild of, 84
 James I. entertained at Brougham Castle, 137; at Salisbury, 176; hunting grounds of, 182; portrait of, 47, 49; visits Coventry, 10
 James II., portraits of, 49, 282; visits Coventry, 12; Salisbury, 178
 James I. of Scotland, arms of, 244
 James II. of Scotland, arms of, 243
 James (Lady), residence of, 184
 Jeener (M.), benefaction of, 196
 Jenkinson (Rev. G.), vicarage of, 193
 Jenner (J.), memorial of, 224
 Jenner (R.), foundation of, 171
 Jervis (—), residence of, 53
 Jervoise (P.), seat of, 171
 Jesson (family of), monument of, 108, 114
 Jesson (Mayor of Coventry), portrait of, 47, 49
 Jewell (Bishop of Salisbury), death of, 186; burial-place of, 329; memorial of, 329
 Jocelyn (Bishop of Salisbury), burial-place of, 305, 308
 John (King), holds court at Kineton, 4; coronation chair of, 47; estates of, 113; seizes Marlborough, 175; hunting seat of, 181, 188, 346; stables of, 227; divorce and re-marriage of, 228; manor of, 239
 John (King of France), visits Clarendon, 176
 John (Bishop of Bath and Wells), dedicates the cathedral of Old Sarum, 304
 Johnson (A.), pension of, 159
 Johnson (S.), birthplace of, 13, 139
 Johnstone (Dr.), seat of, 6
 Jolepe (—), foundation of, 5
 Jones (Lady), manor of, 191
 Jordan (J.), residence of, 76; poem by, 76
 Juxon (Sir W.), seat of, 23
 Juxon (Lady W.), marriage of, 23
- Katherine of Arragon (Queen), visits Coventry, 10
 Keate (G.), birthplace of, 180
 Kelswick (J.), foundation of, 144
 Ken (Bishop of Bath and Wells), occasional residence of, 185
- Kendal (I., Baron of), possessions of, 153
 Kendal (R. de), birthplace of, 139
 Kenric, victory of, 173
 Kerr (General), seat of, 171
 Kent (M., Countess of), manor of, 224
 Kenwalph (King of Wessex), victory of, 173
 Kevelioc (family of), arms of, 241
 Keys (Rev. E.), curacy of, 55
 Killigrew (D.), marriage of, 250
 Killigrew (family of), arms of, 250
 Killigrew (Mrs.), portrait of, 120
 Killingworth (J. de), birthplace of, 14
 King (W.), residence of, 158
 Kingston (Duke of), manor of, 261; estate of, 348
 Kneller (J. G.), seat of, 171
 Knight (G.), benefaction of, 64
 Knight (M.), marriage of, 105
 Knight (R.), seat of, 6
 Knightley (Mrs.), seat of, 7
 Knollys (Sir W.), residence of, 279
 Kymot (J., and wife), guild of, 84
 Kyrtton (J.), guild of, 83
- Lambert (A. B.), seat of, 171, 182
 Lambert (E.), seat of, 190
 Lancaster (H. de), arms of, 252
 Lancaster (Dr. W.), birthplace of, 139
 Lander (W.), arms of, 101
 Lane (M.), guild of, 86
 Langbaine (Dr. G.), birthplace of, 139; foundation of, 136, 144, 145
 Langhorne (Dr. J.), birthplace of, 139
 Lansdowne (Marquess of), seat of, 171, 190; windows erected by, 329
 Latimer (E.), marriage of, 247, 249, 250
 Latimer (family of), arms of, 251; crest of, 251
 Latimer (Sir. J.), marriage of, 248
 Latimer (Sir N.), marriage of, 249
 Latimer (Sir. R.), marriage of, 248, 249
 Latimer (W., Lord), arms of, 238; marriage of, 248; estates of, 258; death of, 258
 Lavington (G., Bishop of Exeter), birthplace of, 180
 Law (Dr., Bishop of Carlisle), birthplace of, 161; school of, 142
 Law (R.), benefaction of, 136
 Lawes (H.), birthplace of, 180
 Lawes (W.), birthplace of, 180
 Lawley (F.), seat of, 6
 Lawrence (Prior), burial-place of, 298

Ledet (A.), arms of, 248
 Ledet (family of), arms of, 248
 Ledsham (J. P.), arms of, 101
 Lee (Rev. J.), rectory of, 352
 Lee (Rev. J. W. T.), residence of, 221
 Lee (T.), marriage of, 221
 Lee Warner (family of), mansion of, 202
 Leeke (J.), guild of, 84
 Leeke (N.), chaplaincy of, 81
 Leeke (T.), guild of, 87
 Legge (Hon. H.), property of, 27
 Leicester (Earl of), manor of, 67
 Leicester (Dudley, Earl of), portrait of, 282
 Leicester (R., Earl of), foundation of, 4
 Leigh (A.), created a duchess, 119
 Leigh (family of), monuments of, 18; arms of, 243
 Leigh (J.), marriage of, 243
 Leigh (J. C.), seat of, 7
 Leigh (Lady), seat of, 6
 Leigh (U.), marriage of, 29
 Lench (W.), birthplace of, 14
 Leofric (Earl of Mercia), foundations of, 3; frees Coventry of tolls, 17; arms of, 46; portrait of, 53
 Leslie (family of), arms of, 240
 L'Estrange (R.), estate of, 348
 Le Strange (T.), epitaphs for, 128
 Levison (Lady K.), achievement of, 119; foundation of, 119; arms of, 119
 Lewis (H. G.), seat of, 6
 Ley (family of), arms of, 345
 Ley (H.), manor of, 345; burial-place of, 345, monument of, 345
 Ley (W., and M.), monument of, 345
 Leyburn (J.), birthplace of, 162
 Leyburn (Dr. R.), birthplace of, 162
 Lifford (Viscount), birthplace of, 52; arms of, 100
 Lillington (Rev. R.), vicarage of, 62
 Lindsey (Earl of), portrait of, 122
 Lines (—), work of at Holy Trinity, Coventry, 54
 Lisle (H.), advowson of, 82; benefaction of, 82
 Lisle (Lord), seat of, 171
 Lissington (Rev. G.), vicarage of, 64
 Litton (family of), arms of, 242
 Little (W.), seat of, 6
 Lloyd G., seat of, 7; property of, 21
 Lloyd (J.), property of, 21
 Lloyd (J. G.), arms of, 100
 Lloyd (—), manor of, 129

VOL. XXV.

Locke (W.), seat of, 172
 Lockhart (family of), arms of, 256
 Lockhart (J. J.), seat of, 172
 Loggins (R.), benefaction of, 64
 Loggis (W.), benefaction of, 64
 Londonderry (Lord), death of, 115; monument of, 115
 Long (C.), manor of, 335
 Long (family of), mansion of, 203
 Long (H.), manor of, 332
 Long (Hope), manor of, 335
 Long (J.), seat of, 172
 Long (Sir J. T.), residence of, 285
 Long (Joane), tomb of, 333
 Long (R.), M.P. for Wilts, 333; seat of, 333; marriage of, 333
 Long (R. G.), seat of, 172
 Long (Sir T.), estate of, 333; engages with Perkin Warbeck, 333
 Long (Sir W.), buildings erected by, 334
 Long (W.), M.P. for Wilts, 335; estate of, 335
 Longspee (P. D.), burial-place of, 209
 Longspee (W., Earl of Salisbury), burial-place of, 186; monument of, 310; foundation of, 320
 Lonsdale (Earls of), seats of, 136, 137
 Lonsdale (W., Earl of), benefaction of, 146
 Loomb (T.), benefaction of, 64
 Lopes (Sir M. M.), seat of, 173
 Love (S.), arms of, 243
 Lovell (J., Lord), arms of, 253
 Lovell (P. H.), seat of, 171
 Lowe (H.), benefaction of, 55, 56
 Lowe (P.), mastership of, 109
 Lowther (family of), tombs of, 142; possessions of, 153
 Lowther (Sir J.), foundation of, 146; property of, 147
 Lowther (R.), foundation of, 146; estates of, 158
 Lowther (—), seat of, 172
 Loyola (Ignatius), portrait of, 19, 120, 121
 Lucas (Lord), manor of, 224
 Lucy (G.), seat of, 6; arms of, 100
 Lucy (Sir T.), residence of, 16
 Lucy (Sir W.), foundation of, 3
 Lucy (—), seat of, 173
 Lud (King), castle of, 169
 Ludlow (A.), seat of, 171, 348
 Ludlow (family of), monument of, 184; arms of, 186
 Ludlow (General), birthplace of, 180; defeat of, 177; memorial of, 348

24

- Luther (Martin), portrait of, 282
 Luttrell (family of), seat of, 115
 Luttrell (S., Lord Irnham), seat of, 113
 Lyllynge (W., and C.), guild of, 87
 Lytelton (Sir T.), guild of, 88
 Lyttelton (H. and M.), guild of, 86

 M'Carthy (family of), arms of, 255
 Machael (E.), pension of, 159
 Machiavel, portrait of, 122
 Mackarethe (M.), pension of, 159
 McLellan (A.), arms of, 101
 Maklesfield (W.), birthplace of, 14
 Malet (Sir A. W.), seat of, 173
 Malmesbury (Earl of), monument of, 321
 Malmesbury (O. of), birthplace of, 180
 Malmesbury (W. de), birthplace of, 180; residence of, 185
 Malone (—), benefaction of, 76; verses on, 102
 Mandeville (B.), marriage of, 193
 Manley (family of), arms of, 57
 Mann (J.), birthplace of, 180
 Manners (J.), memorial of, 74
 Mapleton (Dr.), school of, 186
 March (Earl of), attainder of, 9
 Marius (King of the Britons), victory of, 137
 Marlborough (Duke of), seat of, 172
 Marlborough (H. of), birthplace of, 180
 Marow (M.), monument of, 33
 Marrow (family of), arms of, 70
 Marrow (T.), manor of, 129
 Marryman (Sir T.), chaplaincy of, 82
 Marsh (H.), benefaction of, 63
 Martin (E.), marriage of, 249
 Martin (F.), marriage of, 247
 Martin (family of), genealogy of, 249; arms of, 249
 Martlemere (family of), arms of, 160
 Mary (Queen), benefaction of, 146; visits Coventry, 10
 Mary (Queen of Scots), imprisoned at Coventry, 10; portraits of, 120, 198, 282
 Mary II., portrait of, 47, 49
 Mary of Gueldres, arms of, 243; genealogy of, 244
 Mary Stuart (Princess), arms of, 244
 Maschiart (M.), birthplace of, 180
 Maskelyne (R.), memorial of, 194
 Mason (C.), benefaction of, 64
 Mason (family of), arms of, 349
 Mason (M.), benefaction of, 64
 Mason (N.), benefaction of, 64; memorial of, 60

 Mason (R., and wife), guild of, 86
 Mason (S.), benefaction of, 64
 Mason (T.), manor of, 80
 Massey (—), portrait of, 49
 Massinger (P.), birthplace of, 180
 Maton (R.), birthplace of, 180
 Matthew (Sir T.), birthplace of, 180
 Maud (Empress), foundations of, 168, 169, 336; shelters at Ludgarshall, 175, 184, 192
 Mauduit (J.), estate of, 239
 Mauduit (W., Earl of Warwick), imprisonment of, 8
 Maurice (Prince), exploits of, 11, 17, 38, 39; portrait of, 120, 122
 Mayne (A.), short biography of, 345, 346
 Mayne (C.), manor of, 345
 Mayne (Dr. J.), short biography of, 345, 346
 Mayne (J.), monument of, 346
 Mayne (J. T.), seat of, 172
 Meade (T.), seat of, 171
 Meadows (Sir W.), seat of, 171
 Mell (R.), pension of, 159
 Mellent (family of), arms of, 240
 Merewether (J.), seat of, 171
 Merriott (T.), birthplace of, 180
 Merton (W. de), foundation of, 294
 Mervyn (family of), estate of, 239; manor of, 246; crest of, 258
 Mervyn (J.), marriage of, 246
 Mervyn (R.), marriage of, 246
 Meschines (family of), arms of, 240
 Methuen (P. C.), benefaction of, 170; seat of, 171, 208, 210
 Meyldulph, foundation of, 168
 Middleton (family of), monument of, 142
 Mill (Dr. J.), birthplace of, 139; school of, 141
 Millard (K.), marriage of, 29
 Miller (F. S.), seat of, 7
 Miller (—), manor of, 129
 Mills (C.), seat of, 6
 Milner (E.), foundation of, 136
 Mitchell (family of), monuments of, 183
 Mitchell (M.), exploits of, 183
 Mohun (family of), arms of, 25
 Mohun (J., Lord), arms of, 252
 Mohun (Joyce), marriage of, 26
 Mole (Rev. J.), curacy of, 55
 Molyns (W., Lord), arms of, 223; estate of, 239
 Mompesson (family of), residence of, 200; arms of, 247; monument of, 346

- Money (Rev. W.), seat of, 173
 Monkhouse (Dr. R.), birthplace of, 139
 Montacute (J. de, Earl of Salisbury), erects cross at Salisbury, 318; penance inflicted on, 319
 Montacute (T., Earl of Salisbury), arms of, 253
 Montagu (J.), seat of, 172
 Montagu (Lady M. W.), reputed elopement of, 348, 349
 Montagu (Sir G.), seat of, 172
 Montague (W.), portrait of, 122
 Montague (—), seat of, 190
 Montford (family of), manor of, 64
 Montford (S. de), withdraws to France, 8
 Montfort (J. de), arms of, 255; portrait of, 235
 Montfort (T. de), castle of, 4
 Montgomery (family of), arms of, 256
 Montgomery (R.), seat of, 171
 Montmorency (A., Duke de), arms of, 255
 Montmorency (Constable), portrait of, 235
 Montrose (Marquess of), portrait of, 120, 122
 Moody (W.), seat of, 190
 Moore (family of), residence of, 349
 Moore (T.), seat of, 6
 Moore (W.), seat of, 137
 Mordaunt (Sir J.), arms of, 100; marriage of, 249
 Mordaunt (Lady), seat of, 7
 More (J. and M.), guild of, 89
 More (Sir T.), portrait of, 189
 Morgan (family of), arms of, 256
 Morland (Rev. W.), foundation of, 136, 148
 Morrison (H.), marriage of, 129
 Mortemere (J., and wife), guild of, 82
 Mortimer (E. H.), seat of, 172
 Mortimer (R., Earl of March), arms of, 252
 Mortimer (Sir R.), foundation of, 168
 Mortimer (—), impeachment of, 176
 Morville (family of), arms of, 240
 Moubray (R.), benefaction of, 115
 Mountford (family of), arms of, 242
 Mountford (R.), marriage of, 242
 Mowbray (family of), seat of, 41
 Mowbray (T., Duke of Norfolk), wages battle with Duke of Hereford, 9, 28; arms of, 253
 Muir (family of), arms of, 240
 Mullins (Rev. G.), rectory of, 226
 Mullins (—), residence of, 205
 Munckhouse (M.), benefaction of, 145
 Munckhouse (R.), benefaction of, 148
 Musgrave (family of), residence of, 151; burial-place of, 155
 Musgrave (Sir G.), residence of, 151
 Musgrave (Sir P.), seat of, 137; governor of Appleby Castle, 137
 Musgrave (Sir W.), victory of, 156
 Mynors (T. B.), seat of, 172
 Neale (G. E.), marriage of, 263; property of, 263
 Neale (Sir H. B.), seat of, 172; patronage of, 162; manor of, 261
 Neale (R.), residence of, 263
 Nelmes (Rev. R.), memorial brass of, 273
 Nelson (Earl), reputed residence of, 163; seat of, 172; estate of, 228; statue of, 35, 36
 Nelson (T.), monument of, 65
 Nethersole (F.), foundation of, 5
 Nevil (G., Lord Latimer), estates of, 258
 Nevil (J., Lord), arms of, 253; marriage of, 258
 Nevil (R., Earl of Westmoreland), arms of, 253
 Neville (Archbishop), arrests Edward IV., 66
 Neville (R., Earl of Warwick), manor of, 109; imprisons Edward IV., 128
 Newburgh (— de), foundations of, 3
 Newburgh (R. de, Earl of Warwick), builds church at Warwick, 126
 Newcastle (Duchess of), portrait of, 198
 Newcome (T.), benefaction of, 57, 58; memorial of, 57
 Newdigate (F.), seat of, 6
 Newdigate (Sir R.), foundation of, 15; death of, 15
 Newell (R.), marriage of, 105
 Newman (W.), manor of, 129
 Newport (H., and wife), guild of, 88
 Newport (Viscount), seat of, 6
 Nicholas (R.), seat of, 171
 Nicholson (Rev. —), seat of, 191
 Noble (J.), benefaction of, 144
 Noble (Rev. —), vicarage of, 129; memorial of, 129
 Noel (B.), seat of, 6
 Noel (L.), mastership of, 19
 Norcliffe (W.), memorial of, 65
 Norden (J.), birthplace of, 180
 Normandy (G., Duke of), foundation in honour of, 337
 Norreys (family of), arms of, 251
 Norreys (M.), marriage of, 251

- Norris (Rev. J.), birthplace of, 180 ; rectory of, 182
 Northampton (Earl of), destroys walls of Coventry, 12
 Northampton (Marquess of), seat of, 6
 Northey (W.), seat of, 171
 Norton (Mayor of Coventry), portrait of, 47, 49
- Oakley (E.), marriage of, 105 ; residence of, 105
 Oakley (J.), marriage of, 105 ; residence of, 105
 Oakley (S.), marriage of, 105
 Oatridge (family of), memorials of, 224
 O'Carroll (family of), arms of, 255
 Offer (Rev. J.), memorial of, 184 ; residence of, 184
 Ogden (—), excavations of, at Old Sarum, 302
 Oken (T.), birthplace of, 14
 Oliver the Monk, reputed flight of, 185
 Olla (S.), seat of, 171
 Olney (Sir J.), birthplace of, 14
 O'Reilly (family of), arms of, 255
 Orleans (Duchess of), portrait of, 120, 121
 Orłowski (Major), buys Shakespeare's chair, 75
 Ormond (family of), arms of, 255
 Osbert, manor of, 103
 Osborne (J.), seat of, 172
 Osmund (Bishop of Salisbury), erects church at Old Sarum, 302-304 ; burial-place of, 304, 305 ; translation of bones of, 304 ; monument of, 310
 Ostorius fortifies Arden, 7
 Otway (Sir J.), birthplace of, 140
 Ouds (Rev. T.), memorial brass of, 151
 Outram (B.), monument of, 37
 Outram (Rev. Dr. E.), memorial of, 37
 Overbury (Sir T.), birthplace of, 14
 Ovyrtton (J., and wife), guild of, 82, 83
 Owen (Rev. T.), residence of, 189
- Pace (Archdeacon), tomb of, 311
 Page (R. and J.), guild of, 86
 Paget (Sir A.), seat of, 171
 Paley (W.), residence of, 151
 Palmer (family of), patronage of, 70
 Palmer (J.), birthplace of, 14 ; chaplaincy of, 81
 Palmer (R.), rent charge of, 231
 Palmer (W.), seat of, 6
 Pantham (W.), benefaction of, 64
 Parham (Rev. I.), memorial of, 339
 Parker (Sir H.), benefaction of, 64
- Parkhurst (—), school of, 18
 Parkin (H.), seat of, 137
 Parkinson (J.), memorial of, 35
 Parma (M., Duchess of), portrait of, 120, 121
 Parr (Queen Katherine), grant to, 115 ; reputed residence of, 152 ; birthplace of, 163
 Parr (family of), residence of, 153
 Parr (Old), portrait of, 120
 Parr (Rev. Dr.), seat of, 6, 18
 Parr (Sir T.), reputed burial-place of, 153
 Parre (—), marriage of, 246
 Parrott (F.), seat of, 6
 Parthericke (F.), estate of, 21 ; burial-place of, 21
 Parthericke (J.), burial-place of, 21
 Partyngton (W.), chaplaincy of, 98
 Paulet (Sir W.), seat of, 231
 Paulet (W., Lord St. John), estates of, 231
 Paveley (family of), arms of, 232 ; manor of, 232
 Paveley (J.), marriage of, 232
 Pavely (R. de), foundation of, 168
 Payne (H.), chaplaincy of, 81
 Payne (T.), guild of, 89
 Payton (—), residence of, 24
 Peach (S.), seat of, 6
 Pearse (J.), seat of, 171
 Pearson (E.), memorial of, 268
 Pearson (J., Bishop of Chester), descent of, 143
 Peche (family of), manor of, 64 ; arms of, 249
 Peche (M.), marriage of, 249
 Peche (Sir J., and Lady), epitaph for, 64
 Peel (E.), seat of, 6
 Peel (W. G.), residence of, 31
 Pembridge (family of), arms of, 71
 Pembroke (A., Countess of), birthplace of, 163 ; foundation of, 136 ; fortifies Appleby, 137 ; residence of, 140
 Pembroke (Earls of), seat of, 171, 190, 192, 350, 351
 Pembroke (P., Earl of), portrait of, 350
 Pendragon (Uther), fate of, 143
 Penn (Admiral Sir W.), birthplace of, 194
 Pennington (Sir T.), birthplace of, 163
 Pennington (Rev. A.), birthplace of, 162 ; benefaction of, 136 ; foundation of, 145, 146
 Penruddock (J. H.), seat of, 171
 Penruddock (Mrs.), seat of, 171

- Penruddocke (C.), seat of, 192
 Percy (H., Earl of Northumberland), arms of, 254
 Percy (Lord), foundation of, 133
 Percy (Sir W.), manor of, 261, 264
 Perkins (S. F. S.), seat of, 7
 Perkins (W.), birthplace of, 14
 Pershore (R. de), foundation of, 292
 Petty (G.), benefaction of, 145
 Pexall (R.), estates of, 209
 Phelip (W., Lord Bardolph), arms of, 253
 Philips (Sir J.), estate of, 73
 Philipson (C.), birthplace of, 162
 Philipson (family of), monuments of, 143
 Philipson (R.), birthplace of, 140 ; seat of, 138 ; exploits of, 138
 Phillips (J.), arms of, 100
 Phillips (R. and A.), guild of, 85
 Phipps (C. L.), seat of, 172
 Pierpont (E.), created Duke of Kingston, 348
 Pierpont (R.), marriage of, 348
 Pigot (Captain), seat of, 192
 Pilardinton (R. de), foundation of, 4
 Pipard (family of), arms of, 249
 Pipard (M.), marriage of, 249
 Pitman (J.), memorial of, 197
 Pitt (family of), arms of, 243 ; property of, 343
 Pitt (J.), seat of, 171
 Pitt (L.), marriage of, 243
 Pitt (W., Earl of Chatham), birthplace of, 180 ; M.P. for Old Sarum, 186
 Pitts (J.), tomb of, 57
 Place (L.), seat of, 7
 Plantagenet (E., Duke of York), arms of, 253
 Plantagenet (E.), birthplace of, 14
 Plantagenet (L., Duke of Clarence), arms of, 253
 Plantagenet (M.), birthplace of, 181
 Plantagenet (T., Duke of Gloucester), arms of, 253
 Pleydell (A.), burial-place of, 193
 Pleydell (Sir C.), marriage of, 193
 Pleydell (C.), monument of, 193
 Pleydell (family of), seat of, 193
 Pleydell (Rev. W.), vicarage of, 193
 Plugener (H.), benefaction of, 337
 Pole (Rev. R.), memorial of, 74
 Pollen (Dowager Lady), seat of, 171
 Pollock (Rev. T.), residence of, 285
 Poore (E.), residence of, 188, 315
 Poore (R., Bishop of Salisbury), foundation of, 170 ; buildings of, 304 ; translates bones of his predecessors from Old Sarum, 322 ; burial-place of, 186
 Poore (Sir E.), seat of, 172
 Pope, the Poet, bust of, 187
 Popham (A.), marriage of, 333
 Popham (E.), seat of, 280
 Popham (family of), seat of, 221 ; manor of, 277
 Popham (General E. L.), seat of, 172
 Popham (Sir J.), birthplace of, 279 ; imprisonment of, 279 ; burial-place of, 280
 Porter (E. le), marriage of, 332
 Porter (J.), benefactions of, 83
 Potter (B., Bishop of Carlisle), birthplace of, 162
 Potter (F.), birthplace of, 181
 Poulter (—), highway robberies of, 220
 Powel (Sir A.), seat of, 192
 Powel (F.), seat of, 192
 Powell (A.), seat of, 171
 Powlett (Lady C.), monument of, 232
 Powlett (J.), marriage of, 232
 Powlett (N.), memorial of, 194
 Poyntz (family of), arms of, 255
 Preston (Bishop of Killala), birthplace of, 162 ; school of, 142
 Preston (Sir J.), birthplace of, 162
 Price (Captain C.), marriage of, 30
 Price (F.), memorial of, 311
 Price (L.), memorial of, 32
 Price (Rev. —), seat of, 6
 Priestley (Dr.), residence of, 15 ; destruction of meeting-house of, 12, 15
 Pritchard (Mrs.), seat of, 136
 Prynce (J.), guild of, 83
 Purdon (W. and A.), guild of, 86
 Purefoy (Colonel), destroys cross at Warwick, 11
 Purefoy (J.), residence of, 350
 Purefoy (—), monument of, 15
 Putte (L. and J.), guild of, 85
 Pyers (W.), guild of, 87
 Pyfe (J.), chaplaincy of, 82
 Fynke (W.), guild of, 89
 Quabb (—), depredations of, 347
 Queensberry (Duke of), residence of, 182, 200, 346
 Quincy (family of), arms of, 240
 Radclyffe (R., Earl of Sussex), arms of, 254
 Radford (E.), marriage of, 249
 Radford (family of), arms of, 249
 Radley (J. and M.), guild of, 86

- Radnor (Earl of), buildings of, 170, 315; seat of, 172, 351
 Rainsford (Sir H.), estate of, 29
 Raleigh (Dr.), birthplace of, 181
 Raleigh (Sir W.), portrait of, 282
 Ranelagh (Lord), residence of, 349
 Ranulf (Earl of Chester), castle of, 4
 Ravon (J.), guild of, 85
 Rawlin (J.), guild of, 87
 Rawlinson (D.), birthplace of, 161
 Rawlinson (family of), arms of, 194, 195
 Rawlinson (Sir W.), birthplace of, 161; monument of, 195
 Raymond (I.), marriage of, 346
 Read (Colonel), seat of, 191
 Reader (W.), churchwarden of Holy Trinity, Coventry, 54
 Reading (E.), marriage of, 241
 Reading (family of), arms of, 241
 Repington (C. E.), seat of, 6
 Ricard, the painter, portrait of, 122
 Ricardo (D.), burial-place of, 183; monument of, 184
 Richard I., grant by, 338
 Richard II., portrait of, 189
 Richard III. visits Maxstoke Castle, 9; overthrown at Bosworth, 10; fights hand to hand with Sir J. Cheyney, 317
 Richards (R.), memorial of, 59
 Richelieu (Cardinal), portrait of, 282
 Riland (family of), patronage of, 114
 Riland (Rev. —), rectory of, 108
 Riperiis (W. de), foundation of, 168
 Rivers (Earl of), seat of, 172; execution of, 9
 Rivers (family of), arms of, 215
 Robertson (J.), birthplace of, 140
 Robinson (Hon. Miss), monument erected by, 321
 Robson (—), seat of, 172
 Robyns (J. and M.), guild of, 86
 Roche (G. and A.), guild of, 87
 Rochester (Earl of), conversion of, 187; occasional residence of, 187
 Rode (J.), pension of, 159
 Roderic the Pict, defeat of, 136
 Rodolphus II., chair of, 351
 Roger (Bishop of Salisbury), castle of, 169; buildings of, 287, 288, 313, 314; burial-place of, 305, 308
 Rogers (D.), birthplace of, 14
 Rogers (family of), arms of, 242, 247
 Rogers (Rev. Dr.), seat of, 172
 Rogers (T.), birthplace of, 14
 Rogger (W., and wife), guild of, 86
 Rohan (family of), arms of, 246
 Rolt (Colonel), residence of, 191
 Ross (family of), arms of, 240
 Ross (W., Lord), arms of, 253
 Rous (family of), manor of, 264
 Rous (G.), residence of, 127
 Rous (J.), library of, 126
 Rous (W.), benefaction of, 127
 Rouse (J.), birthplace of, 14; residence of, 16; chantry of, 17
 Ruckher (M.), portrait of, 120
 Rudburne (T., Bishop of St. David's), birthplace of, 181
 Rudge (E.), arms of, 100
 Rupert (Prince), exploits of, 11, 177; portrait of, 120, 122
 Ruthyn (Baroness Grey de), seat of, 6
 Ryve (Rev. J.), rectory of, 231
 Sacheverell (family of), residence of, 114, 115
 Sacheverell (H.), birthplace of, 113, 181
 Sackville (Sir E.), portrait of, 197
 Sackville (R., Earl of Dorset), portrait of, 197
 Sadleir (Sir R.), portrait of, 184
 Sadler (Rev. R.), seat of, 7
 St. Adelhelm, birthplace of, 178
 St. Aldhelm, foundation of, 168; abbacy of, 185
 St. Anthony, statue of, 236, 238
 St. Barbe (E.), mansion of, 349; arms of, 349
 St. Dunstan elected Bishop of Worcester, 174
 St. Egwin (Bishop of Worcester), foundation of, 22
 St. Germain (Earl), seat of, 171
 St. John (family of), memorials of, 175; arms of, 292
 St. John (W. Paulet, Lord), estates of, 231
 St. Martino (L. de), erects cross at Salisbury, 318; penance inflicted on, 318; residence of, 319
 St. Maur (T. de), foundation of, 168
 St. Nicholas (E.), memorial of, 71
 St. Walery (R. de), foundation of, 270
 St. Wolstan (Bishop of Worcester), consecration of, 22
 Salford (H.), suretyship of, 81
 Salisbury (A., Countess of), burial-place of, 209
 Salisbury (Earls of), tombs of, 310
 Salisbury (D., Earl of), arms of, 210
 Salisbury (J. of, Bishop of Chartres), birthplace of, 181

- Salisbury (Mrs.), seat of, 172
 Salisbury (P., Earl of), foundation of, 338; burial-place of, 209
 Salisbury (S., Countess of), tomb of, 209
 Salisbury (W., Earl of), foundation of, 209; tomb of, 209
 Salkeld (T.), property of, 158, 159
 Salmon (W.), seat of, 172; property of, 346
 Saloway (I. and M.), guild of, 84
 Sampson (Bishop of Worcester), grant by, 37
 Sandes (T.), foundation of, 136
 Sands (—), residence of, 22, 24
 Sandys (E., Archbishop of York), birthplace of, 161
 Saunderson (R.), birthplace of, 140
 Savage (T., Bishop of Durham), birthplace of, 162
 Sawbridge (W.), seat of, 172
 Sawyer (T.), seat of, 172
 Say (Lord Treasurer), murder of, 229
 Scarning (E.), manor of, 129
 Scathelok (T.), manumission of, 332; grant to, 332
 Scharpe (P. and J.), guild of, 85
 Schepard (T.), chaplaincy of, 80
 Schomberg (Mrs.), seat of, 172
 Schypley (R.), mayoralty of, 48
 Scott (D. J.), birthplace of, 181
 Scott (Mrs.), seat of, 7
 Scrope (W.), seat of, 171
 Sedgwick (J.), birthplace of, 181
 Sedgwick (O.), birthplace of, 181
 Seed (J.), birthplace of, 163
 Segrave (family of), seat of, 41
 Selkirk (Earl of), school of, 142
 Selwyn (Rev. —), residence of, 192
 Seymour (C.), marriage of, 247
 Seymour (E., Duke of Somerset), marriage of, 250; arms of, 254
 Seymour (Sir E.), marriage of, 251; tomb of, 185; monument of, 284
 Seymour (family of), arms of, 247
 Seymour (H., Viscount Beauchamp), property of, 284
 Seymour (Sir J.), marriage of, 250
 Seymour (Lady J.), marriage of, 176, 188
 Seymour (J. R.), seat of, 171
 Seymour (R.), marriage of, 329; estates of, 329
 Seymour (Sir T.), estates of, 231
 Seymour (Lord W.), property of, 276
 Seymour (Webb), seat of, 298, 300
 Seymour of Sudley (Lord), portrait of, 282; execution of, 282
 Shaftoe (R. E. D.), seat of, 171
 Shakespeare (W.), birthplace of, 14, 18, 74, 79; residence of, 12; school of, 19; portrait of, 19; bust of, 19, 102; chair of, 75, 76, 78; statue of, 77; burial-place of, 74; monument of, 75, 99, 101
 Sharing (Rev. T.), vicarage of, 196; memorial of, 196
 Sharp (T.), residence of, 52
 Sharp (—), manufactures toys from Shakespeare's mulberry tree, 76, 77
 Shaw (J.), arms of, 46; mayoralty of, 46
 Shaw (Dr. T.), birthplace of, 140, 162; school of, 142
 Sheldon (E.), seat of, 6
 Sheldon (W.), foundation of, 20
 Sheldon (W., and family), memorials of, 74
 Sheldon (—), advowson of, 104; residence of, 104
 Sheppard (A.), seat of, 137
 Sheppard (Rev. W.), birthplace of, 163
 Sheppard (S.), property of, 240
 Sheriff (L.), birthplace of, 14; foundation of, 3
 Shewring (M.), memorial brass of, 223
 Shewring (T.), memorial brass of, 224
 Shirley (E. J.), birthplace of, 6
 Shirley (Captain G.), monument of, 58
 Shore (Jane), portrait of, 282, 283
 Short (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 119
 Shottesbrooke (M. de), marriage of, 317
 Shrewsbury (Countess Dowager of), residence of, 190
 Shuckburgh (J.), seat of, 6
 Sidmouth (Lord), cross erected by, 170
 Sidney (Sir P.), portrait of, 120
 Simmonds (E.), marriage of, 128
 Simmonds (—), marriage of, 128; residence of, 128
 Simpson (J. B.), seat of, 6
 Singer (Mrs.), residence of, 185
 Sixtus V. (Pope), portrait of, 188
 Skipwith (Sir G.), seat of, 6
 Skipwith (Lady), seat of, 6
 Skrine (Colonel), seat of, 172
 Sleath (Dr.), school of, 18
 Sleath (Dr. W.), school of, 18
 Smallbrooke (R., Bishop of Lichfield), birthplace of, 14
 Smart (P.), birthplace of, 14
 Smith (E.), the poet, death of, 184
 Smith (G.), seat of, 6; birthplace of, 140; foundation of, 136, 144
 Smith (Rev. J.), birthplace of, 163

- Smith (John), birthplace of, 140
 Smith (J.), birthplace of, 14
 Smith (J. L. S.), arms of, 100
 Smith (T., Bishop of Carlisle), birth-
 place of, 140, 144; benefaction of,
 144
 Smith (T., and family), memorials of,
 272
 Smith (T. A.), seat of, 172
 Smith (Sir W.), guild of, 89
 Smith (Rev. Dr. W.), rectory of, 199
 Smith (W.), benefaction of, 57; resi-
 dence of, 57; manor of, 80
 Smith (Rev. —), vicarage of, 347
 Smitheman (J.), cenotaph for, 65
 Smyth (Sir J.), seat of, 172
 Smyth (J.), makes clocks at Stratford,
 84
 Smythe (Lady), seat of, 7
 Snow (W.), priory of, 211
 Somerset (Dukes of), seat of, 171, 284
 Somerset (C., Earl of Worcester), arms
 of, 254
 Somerset (S., Duchess of), foundation
 of, 258
 Somerville (W.), birthplace of, 14;
 residence of, 60; burial-place of, 60;
 inscription by, 60
 Somerville (family of), arms of, 71
 Southampton (B., Earl of), residence of,
 183
 Southern (T.), birthplace of, 14
 Spencer (Rev. Dr.), vicarage of, 27
 Spencer (E., Lord), arms of, 253
 Spencer (I. de), marriage of, 46
 Spencer (R., and wife), guild of, 84
 Spencer (Sir W.), manor of, 242
 Spicer (J.), benefaction of, 57; resi-
 dence of, 57
 Spilsbury (Rev. J.), vicarage of, 56
 Spinola (Marquess of), portrait of, 120,
 121
 Spooner (J.), memorial of, 25
 Spooner (W.), memorial of, 70
 Squire (family of), arms of, 246
 Squire (Dr. S., Bishop of St. David's),
 birthplace of, 181
 Stafford (H., Duke of Buckingham),
 marriage of, 215; execution of, 215;
 memorial of, 215
 Stafford (H., Earl of), manor of, 129
 Stafford (family of), arms of, 215
 Stafford (R. and H., Earls of), arms of,
 252
 Stagg (E.), seat of, 171
 Stanley (J.), guild of, 88
 Stanley (G., Lord Strange), arms of, 254
 Stanley (J., Earl of Derby), marriage
 of, 255
 Stanley (W., Earl of Derby), marriage
 of, 254
 Stapleton (Sir M.), arms of, 252
 Starkie (Rev. Dr.), seat of, 172
 Staton (W. and C.), guild of, 86
 Staunton (W.), seat of, 6, 12, 119, 127;
 arms of, 100
 Stawell (E.), marriage of, 30
 Stephen (King), repulses Earl of Chester,
 7, 8; seizes castles in Wilts, 175;
 besieges Malmesbury, 175; Trow-
 bridge, 175; Wilton, 178
 Stephens (N.), birthplace of, 181
 Stephens (P.), birthplace of, 181
 Stephenson (Rev. W.), birthplace of,
 140, 144; rectory of, 144; benefac-
 tion of, 144
 Stevenson (W.), churchwarden of
 Malmesbury, 285
 Steward (S. E.), seat of, 6
 Stewart (family of), arms of, 256
 Still (J.), seat of, 171
 Still (P.), seat of, 172
 Stoakes (—), rebuilds church at Mere,
 298
 Stoaly (—), seat of, 171
 Stokys (R., and wife), guild of, 86
 Storge (W. and M.), guild of, 85
 Stoughton (A.), mansion of, 123
 Stourton (family of), monuments of, 341
 Stourton (Sir J. de), castle of, 169
 Stourton (Lord), tomb of, 310, 311
 Strange (G., Lord), estate of, 348
 Stratford (J. de, Archbishop of Canter-
 bury), birthplace of, 14
 Stratford (R. de, Bishop of Chichester),
 birthplace of, 14
 Stratford (R. de, Bishop of London),
 birthplace of, 15; foundation of, 78,
 79
 Strickland (family of), seat of, 134, 136
 Strickland (W. de), birthplace of, 140
 Strickland (Rev. —), seat of, 137
 Stumpe (—), entertains Henry VIII.,
 185
 Stumps (T.), purchases site for Malmes-
 bury church, 293
 Sturmy (E.), marriage of, 247
 Sturmy (family of), arms of, 249
 Sudley (R. de), foundation of, 3
 Suffolk (Duke of), residence of, 15
 Suffolk (Earl of), seat of, 171, 197;
 patronage of, 195
 Suffolk (Lady), portrait of, 198
 Surridge (H.), mayoralty of, 314

- Sutton (J., Lord Dudley), arms of, 253, 254
 Sutton (Rev. Dr. T.), birthplace of, 140, 144; foundation of, 136, 144; rectory of, 144
 Sutton (—), seat of, 190
 Swyffe (J. and A.), guild of, 87

 Tailboys (I. de), possessions of, 153
 Talbot (G., Earl of Shrewsbury), arms of, 254
 Tankerville (W. de), foundation of, 168
 Tanner (T., Bishop of Norwich), birthplace of, 181
 Tate (R. and J.), guild of, 88
 Tatham (T.), seat of, 137
 Taylor (G. W.), seats of, 171; manor of, 232; benefaction of, 232
 Taylor (H.), benefaction of, 64
 Taylor (Dr. J.), birthplace of, 163
 Taylor (J.), memorial of, 197
 Temple (—), seat of, 171
 Templeman (P.), seat of, 173
 Thanet (Earl of), seats of, 136, 137
 Thanet (T., Earl of), benefaction of, 147
 Thistlethwayte (Rev. —), seat of, 172
 Thomas (Dr.), residence of, 15
 Thompson (R.), benefaction of, 64
 Thomson, the poet, occasional residence of, 185
 Thornborough (J., Bishop of Worcester), birthplace of, 181
 Thornton (Colonel), occasional residence of, 187
 Thorpe (J.), burial-place of, 183; monument of, 184
 Thoroughgood (John), grant to, 123
 Throckmorton (Dame E.), memorial brass of, 40
 Throckmorton (Sir G. C.), seat of, 6, 40
 Throckmorton (Sir. J.), seat of, 39; receives knighthood, 67
 Throckmorton (L.), marriage of, 30
 Throgmorton (T., and wife), guild of, 88
 Thurlow (Lord Chancellor), portrait of, 282
 Thynne (Sir J.), residence of, 177; mansion of, 281-283; portrait of, 282; monument of, 269
 Thynne (Lord), portrait of, 282
 Thynne (T.), residence of, 185; portrait of, 282; assassination of, 282; monument of, 185
 Thynne (—), portrait of, 120
 Tichborne (A.), marriage of, 249
 Tichborne (family of), arms of, 249
 Tillotson (Bishop), portrait of, 65
 Tinker (W.), residence of, 346
 Tiolke (Count), portrait of, 282
 Tipper (J.), birthplace of, 15
 Tobin (J.), birthplace of, 181
 Todd (M.), benefaction of, 145
 Todenham (J. de), priory of, 211
 Toledo (Don F. de), portrait of, 122
 Tomes (—), residence of, 24
 Tommis (W.), guild of, 86
 Tommys (Rev. Sir T.), rectory of, 85
 Totnes (G., Earl of), marriage of, 21
 Tounson (Dr.), burial-place of, 214
 Townsend (G.), seat of, 6
 Treby (—), residence of, 344
 Tregoz (family of), manor of, 345
 Tremoiville (C. de), marriage of, 255; parentage of, 255
 Trenchard (Rev. Dr. A.), seat of, 172
 Trevanion (family of), arms of, 256
 Trevet (T.), guild of, 86
 Trewman (T. and A.), guild of, 86
 Tropenell (family of), manor of, 264; crest of, 266
 Tropenell (Sir T.), mansion of, 261
 Tropenell (Sir W.), manor of, 261
 Trowte (R.), chaplaincy of, 80
 Tully (Captain), centenarian, 17; epitaph on, 17
 Turbeville (W. de), foundation of, 182
 Turchetil, manor of, 277

 Ufford (R., Earl of Suffolk), arms of, 253
 Ulster (S., Earl of), burial-place of, 209
 Usk (J. and M.), guild of, 85

 Vache (Sir P. de la), arms of, 253
 Valentia (Duke of), portrait of, 120, 121
 Vere (R., Earls of Oxford), arms of, 253, 254
 Vernon (E.), seat of, 6
 Vernon (Sir J.), foundation of, 168
 Vesey (Lord), foundation of, 133
 Vesey (J., Bishop of Exeter), birthplace of, 15; buildings erected by, 108, 109; character of, 111-113; benefactions of, 114; residence of, 114; arms of, 114; monument of, 112
 Viteripont (family of), castle of, 134; burial-place of, 158
 Voltaire, seat of, 143
 Vyner (R.), seat of, 6

- Wagstaffe (T.), birthplace of, 15
 Walcherine (Bishop of Winchester),
 dedicates cathedral of Old Sarum,
 304
 Walden (R., Bishop of London), in-
 scription for, 47
 Waldron (family of), monument of, 346
 Wale (—), manor of, 271
 Waleran, the huntsman, property of,
 348
 Walker (A.), birthplace of, 140, 163
 Walker (C.), foundation of, 145
 Walker (W.), birthplace of, 140
 Wall (Baring), property of, 349
 Wall (C. B.), seat of, 172
 Wallace (Rt. Hon. T.), seat of, 136
 Waller (General), defeat of, 177
 Waller (R.), benefaction of, 148
 Waller (T.), foundation of, 145
 Walsh (T.), priory of, 211
 Walter (H., Bishop of Old Sarum),
 translated to Canterbury, 304
 Walthoof, arms of, 241
 Wanley (H.), birthplace of, 15
 Wanley (Rev. N.), vicarage of, 17
 Wansley (Major), garrisons Woodhouse,
 177
 Warbeck (Perkin), insurrection under,
 334
 Ward (Bishop of Salisbury), foundation
 of, 170
 Warneford (F.), seat of, 172
 Warner (Rev. R.), rectory of, 262
 Warriner (E.), seat of, 171
 Warrington (Lord), portrait of, 198
 Warton (Rev. I.), vicarage of, 56
 Warwick (Guy, Earl of), possessions of,
 122, 123
 Warwick (R., Earl of), portrait of, 120,
 121
 Wastal (S.), birthplace of, 140
 Watson (Mrs.), seat of, 136
 Watson (R., Bishop of Llandaff), birth-
 place of, 140, 163; property of, 141;
 school of, 142
 Watsonne (H.), pension of, 159
 Watsonne (R.), pension of, 159
 Watt (J.), seat of, 6
 Waugh (Dr. J.), birthplace of, 163
 Wayte (M.), marriage of, 333
 Webb (E.), memorial of, 194
 Webb (D. and W.), memorial of, 273
 Webb (Sir T.), seat of, 172
 Webb (W.), memorial of, 194
 Webbe (G., Bishop of Limerick), birth-
 place of, 181; residence of, 344
 Weller (Rev. S.), rectory of, 340
 Welles (family of), arms of, 255
 Wellesley (W. P. L.), seat of, 172
 Wentworth (family of), arms of, 250
 Wentworth (M.), marriage of, 250
 West (family of), estate of, 239
 West (J. R.), arms of, 101
 West (Mrs.), seat of, 25
 West (T., Lord de la Warr), arms of,
 254
 West (T. R.), seat of, 6
 Westley (—), manors of, 198, 199
 Weston (W.), arms of, 117
 Westynton (R. and A.), guild of, 87
 Weymouth (Lord), portrait of, 282;
 seat of, 335
 Weyvile (R., Bishop of Salisbury),
 dedicates church at Edinton, 230;
 memorial brass of, 312
 Whalley (P.), birthplace of, 15
 Wharton (family of), burial-place of,
 155, 156; residence of, 160; arms
 of, 256
 Wharton (Sir G.), birthplace of, 140
 Wharton (P., Lord), benefaction of,
 147; grants to, 158
 Wharton (T., Lord), foundation of, 136,
 146, 156; defeats Scots, 156; me-
 morial of, 156; estates of, 158
 Whateley (Sir R.), guild of, 89
 Whatmore (E.), seat of, 192
 Wheler (Sir C.), seat of, 6
 Wheler (J.), chaplaincy of, 81
 Whitchurch (Farmer), property of, 301
 White (Rev. J.), rectory of, 186
 White (W.), marriage of, 128
 White (—), residence of, 316
 Whitechurch (—), benefaction of, 324
 Whitehouse (G.), birthplace of, 140
 Whychurch (W.), mayoralty of, 48
 Whythede (J.), guild of, 88
 Wichell (T. and E.), residence of, 272
 Widevil (K.), marriage of, 215
 Widvile (R., Earl Rivers), arms of,
 253
 Wigget (Rev. J.) rectory of, 196
 Wigston (—), marriage of, 70
 Wilkins (E.), residence of, 285
 Willes (E.), seat of, 6
 Willes (G.), residence of, 76
 Willan (Rev. W.), foundation of, 145
 William I., reputed hunting-seat of,
 109; visits Old Sarum, 175; Stour-
 ton House, 174
 William II., holds council at Old
 Sarum, 174; grants by, 217
 William III., portrait of, 49; visits
 Berwick St. Leonards, 201; Cholder-

- ton, 220 ; progress of, through Wilts, 221
 William (King of Scotland), sacks Brough Castle, 137
 Williamsom (Rev. R.), rectory of, 114
 Willington (M.), marriage of, 27
 Willoughby (F.), birthplace of, 15
 Willoughby (R.), residence of, 189
 Willoughby (W. D.), arms of, 253
 Willoughby de Broke (R., Lord), seat of, 6 ; marriage of, 317
 Willys (W.), guild of, 88
 Willis (T.), birthplace of, 181, 259
 Wilmot (E. Eardley), monument of, 33
 Wilmot (Right Hon. Sir J. E.), chief Justice of the Common Pleas, 32 ; seat of, 6, 32 ; monument of, 32, 33
 Wilmot (Lord), victory of, 177
 Wilson (Bishop), buildings erected by, 160
 Wilson (D.), seat of, 137
 Wilson (E.), foundation of, 136, 145
 Wilson (E. J.), birthplace of, 140 ; seat of, 137
 Wilson (Rev. H.), benefaction of, 145
 Wilson (H.), benefaction of, 146
 Wilson (Sir H.), residence of, 108
 Wilson (Sir. J.), birthplace of, 163
 Wilson (Rev. J.), rectory of, 264
 Wilson (R.), benefaction of, 147
 Wilson (W. C.), seat of, 136
 Wilson (—), seat of, 172
 Wilton (J. of), birthplace of, 181
 Wilton (T. of, Dean of St. Paul's), birthplace of, 181
 Wiltshire (J.), seat of, 172
 Winchcomb (Lady), benefaction of, 197
 Windsor (Lord), residence of, 344
 Winterburne (Cardinal W.), birthplace of, 181
 Winterton (—), property of, 128
 Wise (Rev. H.), seat of, 7
 Wise (M.), seat of, 6
 Withering (Dr. W.), memorial of, 59
 Withers (P.), birthplace of, 181
 Wolstan (St., Bishop of Worcester), birthplace of, 15
 Wolvey (A. de), foundation of, 128 ; marriage of, 128 ; manor of, 128
 Wolvey (Sir J. de), manor of, 128
 Wolvey (Joan de), marriage of, 26, 128
 Wombwell (T.), benefaction of, 63
 Wonley (R.), guild of, 88
 Woodward (D. H.), mansion of, 202
 Worcester (Bishops of), park of, 18
 Wordsworth (W.), seat of, 137
 Wortley Montagu (Lady M.), reputed elopement of, 348
 Wren (Sir C.), birthplace of, 181
 Wrey (Rev. W. B.), seat of, 172
 Wright (R.), foundation of, 146
 Wroughton (Miss), seat of, 173
 Wulfhere (King of Mercia), defeat of, 173
 Wulstan (Earl of Wiltshire), foundation of, 168
 Wurstan (Earl of Mercia), engages in battle with King Æthelmund, 178
 Wydbury (Rev. J.), guild of, 87
 Wyncote (R.), guild of, 87
 Wyndham (H. P.), residence of, 316
 Wyndham (J.), memorial of, 316
 Wyndham (W.), seat of, 171, 172, 192
 Wyvill (Bishop of Salisbury), memorial brass of, 303
 Yorke (Hon. P.), marriage of, 224
 Youghall (Sir. J.), death of, 160 ; memorial of, 160
 Younge (E.), seat of, 343
 Yvery (family of), arms of, 240
 Zouch (R.), birthplace of, 181
 Zouch of Harringworth (W., Lord), foundation of, 3
 Zouche (family of), arms of, 246





INDEX OF SUBJECTS.



- ACHOLT, manor of, 270
 Acton Turville, 203
 Akerman (J. Y.), on Kemble, 268
 Albourne, 177, 181
 Alcester, 3, 5, 15
 Alderbury, 176, 351
 Alderton, 182, 199, 200
 Allesley, 4
 Almshouses, 27, 57, 84, 119, 170, 171,
 191, 247, 258, 297
 Alscott, 25
 Alveston, 5
 Ambleside, 140, 144
 Amesbury, 167, 168, 174, 182, 200,
 221
 Angelo (Michael), paintings by, 187,
 351
 Angle Tarn, 134
 Ansley Hall, 15
 Appleby, 134, 136-138, 140, 141, 144,
 154
 Applethwaite, 134
 Arborough Banks, 64
 Arbury, 15
 Arms, family, 22, 25, 26, 35, 45, 46, 55,
 57-59, 64, 65, 70-73, 100, 101, 108,
 113, 114, 117-119, 124, 160, 192,
 194-197, 202, 210, 211, 215, 223,
 232, 246-257, 272, 292, 309, 345,
 349
 Arthur's Round Table, 141
 Asby, 133-136, 141
 Ashby, 136, 144
 Ashcombe, 182
 Ashridge (Bucks), 230
 Askham, 133, 135, 141
 Aston (Warwickshire), 11, 25-27
 Astley, 4, 15
 Atherstone, 5, 10, 15, 28
 Aubrey, on South Wraxhall, 333
 Avebury, 167, 168, 191, 201
 à Wood (A.), on Malmesbury, 293, 294
 Bacon, sculpture by, 33
 Badbury, 167
 Baddesley Ensor, 4
 Baginton, 4, 8, 28, 32
 Bakers, strike of, at Coventry, 29
 Balsall, 4, 15, 63, 64
 Bampton, 136, 141, 144
 Banbury (Wilts), 173
 Barford, 5
 Barnes (W.), on Mere, 296-298
 Barston, 4
 Barton, 133, 136, 144, 145
 Barton-on-the-Heath, 15, 16, 22
 Battleburgh, 133
 Beare (—), stained glass by, 329
 Beaudesert, 4
 Bed, curious, at Clopton, 7, 16
 Bedwyn, Great, 168, 173, 259, 260
 Bells, church, 38, 42, 45, 50, 51, 56,
 112, 155, 222, 298
 Bell-turrets, Norman, 203, 204
 Bemerton, 182, 192
 Benedictines, foundations of the, 53,
 273
 Berkswell, 32, 33
 Bernasconi, sculpture by, 257
 Berwick St. Leonard, 201, 202
 Betham, 134, 141
 Biddeston, 203, 204, 331
 Bidford, 16
 Biedermann (G. A.), on Dauntsey, 224,
 225
 Bilton, 16
 Binsey (Oxon), 203
 Birmingham, 3-5, 11, 12, 16, 32-37
 Bishop Cannings, 168
 Bishopstone, 182

- Bishopton, 20, 37, 38
 Bisset (—), picture-gallery of, 73
 Bitham Wood, 237
 Blacklow Hill, 16
 Blythe Hall, 16
 Bolton (Westmoreland), 148-151
 Bolton-in-Morland, 145
 "Bon Hommes," foundation of the, at Edington, 229, 230
 Bordesley, 55
 Bosworth, 10
 Botanic garden at Oxford, foundation of, 225
 Bowfell, 135
 Bowles (Rev. W. L.), epitaph by, 213; on Stanley Abbey, 336-338
 Bowood, 169, 182, 190, 211
 Box, 169, 204-207
 Boxwell, 203
 "Boy Bishop," tomb of, at Salisbury, 186
 Bracebridge Pool, 110
 Braden Forest, 174
 Bradenstoke, 168, 207-211, 338
 Bradford (Wilts), 168, 170, 173, 174, 331
 Bradwell, 4
 Brailes, 5
 Brandon, 4
 Brasses, memorial, *in situ*, 27, 35, 40, 151, 186, 194, 223, 224, 273, 294, 303; *mutilated*, 28, 61-63, 71, 311, 312, 314; *removed from matrix*, 71, 72, 232
 Bratton, 167, 174
 Bremenium, 34, 35
 Bremhill, 182, 211-215
 Bridgetown, 24
 Brief for restoration of church, 285
 Brinklow, 3, 4, 116
 Britford, 215-217, 350
 Britons, defeats of the, 173; victories of the, 173
 Britton (J.), on Kingston St. Michael, 273, 274; on Marlborough, 294; on Old Sarum, 302; on Stanton St. Quintin, 339; drawings by, 245, 287
 Brixton Deverill, 269
 Broad Chalk, 182
 Broadgate, Coventry, 10
 Brome, 167
 Bromham, 168, 182, 217
 Bromwich, West, 34
 Broome, 38
 Brough, 133, 135, 137, 141, 145
 Brougham, 134, 135, 137, 141
 Buck (S. and N.), engravings by, 208, 210
 Buckler (J.), drawings by, 281, 326
 Bulbridge, 192
 Buley, 134
 Bull Oak, the, at Wedgenock Park, 127
 Bulners, 136
 Burbage, 330
 Burcombe, 192
 Burneshead, 134
 Burton, 145
 Byland Abbey, 155
 Caldecote, 11, 15, 16, 38, 39
 Calgarth, 141
 Callop Monday, in Westmoreland, 154
 Calne, 168, 170, 174, 182
 Caludon, 4, 9, 28, 41
 Canaletti, paintings by, 188
 Carlton, 135
 Carmelites, foundation of the, 43
 Carpets, first manufactory of, in England, 189
 Carter (—), drawings by, 287
 Carvings, at Bremhill, 214; at Crudwell, 223; at Downton, 227, 228; at Mere, 186; at Salisbury, 314, 326
 Castle Bromwich, 34
 Castle Combe, 173
 Cattermole, drawings by, 245
 Cave's Inn, 16
 Chalfield, Great, 261-268, 333
 Chalfield, Little, 263
 Chambers (Sir W.), architecture of, 15
 Chancel screens, 151, 195, 214, 286, 295-297
 Chantry, sculpture by, 321
 Chapel Plaster, 207, 218-220
 Charlecote, 16
 Charlton, Great, 168, 196-198
 Charlton Park, 182
 Charity schools, 34
 Charm, ring worn as, 52
 Charnel-house at Stratford, 101
 Cherill, 182
 Chesterton, 3
 Chettle Hole, 182
 Chilton Foliat, 277
 Chinese temple at Ansley Hall Park, 15
 Chippenham, 168, 170, 173, 174, 177, 183, 199, 220
 Chipping Campden, 105
 Chitterne All Saints, 169, 183
 Chitterne St. Mary, 169
 Cholderton, 220, 221
 Church Lawford, 4
 Churchwardens' accounts, St. Michael, Coventry, 54

- Cistercians, foundation of the, 336
 Civil War events, 10, 11, 58, 60, 115,
 137, 138, 177, 288
 Clarendon, 168, 175, 176, 183, 306
 Clatford, 168
 Claude, paintings by, 185, 188
 Clearbury ring, 167
 Clifton (Westmoreland), 135, 138
 Clock, curious, at Stratford, 84
 Clopton, 4, 16, 21
 Clotby, 195
 Codford St. Mary, 183
 Coffin-lids at Great Musgrave, 151
 Coffins, discovery of, 73, 123, 141, 184,
 206, 207, 218, 220, 224, 323, 324
 Coins, discovery of, 41, 64, 300
 Cole (B.), drawing by, 126
 Colehill, 4, 16, 66
 Collet (J.), on Stratford, 77, 78
 Collingbourne, 221
 Colt Hoare (R.), on Britford, 215
 Comb Down, 178
 Comb Manor, 129
 Combe, 3, 16, 17
 Commerford, 178
 Compton, Long, 74
 Compton Verney, 5
 Compton Wynyate, 4, 10, 12
 Copford, 204
 Corby, Battle of, 29
 Coronation chair of King John, 47
 Corsham, 170, 174, 176, 183
 Corston, 203
 Cotley Hill, 167
 Cotswold games, institution of the, 15,
 105
 Coughton, 39-41
 Coventry, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 17, 29
 Crackenthorpe, 134
 Cricklade, 170, 174, 221, 222, 268
 Cromlech on Marlborough Downs,
 294, 295
 Crosby Ravensworth, 134, 136, 145
 Cross Cheaping, Coventry, 10
 Crosses, *churchyard*, 62, 324; *market*,
 5, 11, 34, 50, 170, 183, 187, 318,
 320; *roadside*, 58; *village*, 58, 66,
 170, 221, 222
 Crossfell, 135, 141
 Crosthwaite, 134
 Crudwell, 195, 196, 222-224
 Curwen's Island, 135
 Customs, curious, at Devizes, 225; at
 Great Musgrave, 151; at Haselbury,
 220; at Marlborough, 185, 186; at
 Ravenstonedale, 143; at Stockton,
 187; at Tollard Royal, 346
 Dahl (M.), portrait by, 30, 187
 Danes' bank, 39
 Danes, incursions of the, 173, 174, 228
 Danish remains, 133
 Dauntsey, 224, 225
 Davila, portrait by, 122
 Deddington (Oxon), 8
 Deretend, 55, 56
 Deverill, the, underground river in
 Wilts, 183
 Devizes, 168, 169, 175, 177, 183, 225
 De Wilde (G. J.), on Ditteridge, 226
 Dinton, 192, 221, 225, 226
 Ditteridge, 226, 227
 Dolphin House, the, at Salisbury, 314
 Domesday Book, references to, 34, 61,
 277
 Dow (G.), portrait by, 121
 Downton (Wilts), 170, 183, 227, 228
 Draycot, 183, 208
 Draycot Cerne, 333
 Drownfont, 337, 338
 Druidical Remains, 133, 159, 167
 Dufton, 145
 Dunchurch, 4, 5, 56-58
 Dunford, Little, 309
 Dunmail Raise, 137
 Eamont, 141
 Earthworks, 3, 133
 East Everley, 183, 184
 East Knoyle, 169, 170
 Easton Pierce, 274
 Easington, 58
 Ebony figure, discovery of, at Coventry,
 41
 Echo on Windermere, 143
 Edgbaston, 12, 58, 59
 Edgehill, 3, 5, 11, 60
 Edington, 174, 176, 228-233
 Edston, 60
 Eginton (F.), stained glass by, 16, 65,
 234, 324
 Eginton (H.), architecture of, 99
 Elderton (J.), on Salisbury, 315, 316;
 on Stratford-sub-castle, 343, 344
 Ellerbeck, 133
 Elm-tree at Stratford-upon-Avon, 103
 Elter Water, 134
 Elton Farm, 194
 Epitaphs, 33-35, 57-62, 70-72, 74, 123,
 124, 156, 157, 193-197, 199, 213,
 220, 221, 223-226, 233, 268, 311,
 312, 316, 317, 328, 339, 340, 342,
 343, 345
 Erdburie, 3
 Erdington, 26

- Estcourt, 224
 Ethandune, 228
 Evesham, 22
 Ewen, 268
 Ewing, 268
 Ewyas, 344, 345
 Exhall, 17

 Fairs, at Kirkby Stephen, 154; at Sutton Coldfield, 110
 Farleigh, 233
 Farlton Knot, 135, 142
 Fast, appointed to be kept at Warwick, 126
 Fire, destructive, at Warwick, 124-126
 Fisher (T.), on Stratford-upon-Avon, 80-98
 Fisherton Delamere, 154
 Fladbury, 24, 25
 Fletchamsted, 4
 Fonthill, 184, 233-258
 Fonthill Giffard, manor of, 238, 239
 Fonts, church, 38, 55, 63, 72, 73, 119, 169, 194-197, 199, 222, 227, 269, 324, 326
 Fountain Stone, 15, 16
 Four Oaks, 113
 Free Schools, 5, 15, 17-19, 33, 34, 109, 114, 136, 141, 144-148, 151, 170, 171, 186, 187
 Frescoes at Ditteridge, 227; at Newnham Regis, 18
 Froxfield, 171, 191, 258
 Fulbroke, 17
 Fugglestone, 169, 184
 Funeral garland, at Stockton Church, 187

 Gale (T.), architecture of, 258
 Garland, funeral, at Stockton Church, 187
 Gell Forth Spout, 135
 George (W.), drawings by, 280
 Gondsdikey, 135
 Gosford Green, 9, 28
 Gospel Elm, at Stratford-upon-Avon, 103
 Grammar schools. *See* Free schools
 Grasmere, 134
 Great Bedwyn, 168, 173, 259, 260
 Great Chalfield, 261-268, 333
 Great Charlton, 168, 196-198
 Great Musgrave, 151, 152
 Great Sherston, 174
 Greene (R.), on Stratford-upon-Avon, 77
 Greenholme, 136, 145

 Grey Friars, foundations of the, 43, 53
 Griffith (M.), drawings by, 67, 160
 Guest (—), painting by, 187
 Guido, paintings by, 121
 Guy's Cliff, 4, 17, 18

 Hackthorp, 146
 Halford, 60, 61
 Hall (G.), on Shap, 157, 159
 Hallywell, 16
 Hamilton (R.), drawings by, 234
 Hamper (W.), on Avebury, 201; on Birmingham, 34, 35; on Knowle, 72; on Stonehenge, 340
 Hampton-in-Arden, 58, 61-64
 Hankerton, 194, 195
 Hard Walk, 236
 Harnham Bridge, 319, 320
 Harnish, 184
 Hartham, 184
 Hartley, 134
 Hartshill, 4
 Hartshorn Tree at Hornby Hall, 143
 Haselbury, 220
 Hatton, 18, 65, 66
 Haunted House at Tidworth, 188
 Haverback, 134
 Hawes Water, 134
 Hawkesworth (Dr.), epitaph by, 18
 Hayley (W.), epitaph by, 343
 Heale House, 344
 Heddington, 184, 228
 Helvellyn, 135
 Henley-in-Arden, 4, 66
 Henwood, 4
 Hermitage at Bridgetown, 24; at Chapel Plaster, 218-220
 Heversham, 136, 142, 145
 Hewell, 5
 Heytesbury, 170, 184, 189, 190, 247
 Heywood, 170
 Hill, 108, 114
 Hill Deverill, 184, 269
 Hindon, 221, 244
 Hindoo Temple at Melchet, 186
 Hinkley Hill, 236
 Hoare (R. C.), on Britford, 215
 Holbein, portraits by, 121, 122, 185, 189, 198
 Holt (Wilts), 170
 Holy Cross, guild of the, at Stratford-upon-Avon, 83-97
 Honiley, 66, 67
 Hopper (G.), on Kendal, 152
 Horn, curious, at Tottenham Park House, 188
 Hornby, 143

- Horningsham, 169, 184
 Hospitals, 5, 17, 119, 123, 136, 168, 170, 189, 201, 319, 320
 Houthurst, portraits by, 17
 Howgill, 134
 Hungerford, 221, 350
 Hurdcott, 192
 Hutton, Old, 136, 143

 Idminston, 184
 Ikeneild Street, 110, 113
 Ilmington, 5
 Imber, 184
 Inkpen (Berks), 260
 Inscriptions. *See* Epitaphs
 Itchingham (Long), 119
 Itchington (Long), 10

 Janssen (C.), portraits by, 120, 282
 Jarvis (—), stained glass by, 310
 Jeayes (—), drawings by, 67
 Johnson (G.), sculpture by, 101
 Jones (Inigo), architecture of, 350
 Jordan (J.), on the neighbourhood of Stratford-upon-Avon, 20-25
 Jordan Well, Coventry, 10

 Kaber, 138, 145
 Kaufmann (A.), portraits by, 189
 Kemble, 198, 199, 268
 Kendal, 133, 134, 136, 138, 142, 145, 146, 152, 153
 Kenilworth, 3, 4, 8-10, 67, 68
 Kennet, 174
 Kentmere, 134, 142
 Key, discovery of, at Old Sarum, 308
 Kineton, 4, 12, 60
 King's Heath, 290, 291
 Kingston Deverill, 269
 Kingswood, 168, 269-273
 Kington St. Michael, 168, 219, 273, 274
 Kintbury (Berks), 260
 Kirbythorpe, 134
 Kirkburgh, 134
 Kirkby Lonsdale, 124, 135, 136, 142, 146
 Kirkby Stephen, 124, 136, 145, 146, 154-156
 Kneller (Sir G.), portraits by, 282
 Knights Templars, preceptories of the, 4, 15, 115; manors of the, 115, 129
 Knock, 167
 Knowle, 4, 18, 63, 64, 68-72
 Knoyle Odierne, 274

 Lacock, 169, 190, 274-277

 Langley Hall, 115
 Lansdown, 177
 Lawrance (—), portraits by, 49
 Leamington, 5, 73
 Leigh Delamere, 203
 Leland, on Chapel Plaster, 218, 219;
 on Edington, 230; on Malmesbury, 286; on Salisbury, 320; on Wraxhall, 334
 Lely (Sir P.), portraits by, 17, 49, 282
 Lenham (Kent), 227
 Lightning, destruction of buildings by, 61, 63, 331
 Lilleshall, 119
 Lime-trees at Mere, 297
 Little Chalfield, 263
 Littlecote, 184, 185, 221, 277-281
 Little Danford, 309
 Little Sutton, 108
 Little Tey, 204
 Little Wolford, 73, 74
 "Liveryman," etymology of, 91
 Lockswell, 168, 336
 Longbridge, 119, 127
 Longbridge Deverill, 269
 Long Compton, 74
 Longford, 169, 185, 351
 Longholme Island, 143
 Long Itchingham, 119
 Long Itchington, 10
 Longleat, 168, 177, 185, 281-283
 Long Marston, 24
 Lorraine (C.), paintings by, 351
 Louis XIV., medallion of, 335
 Ludgershall, 169, 175, 192
 Lydiard Tregoze, 185

 Maiden Bradley, 168, 185, 284
 Maiden Castle, 134
 Mallerstang, 134, 135
 Malmesbury, 168-170, 173, 174, 177, 185, 208, 285-294
 Maney, 108
 Maps made of Tapestry, at Weston House, 20
 Marden (Wilts), 173
 Markets, 154, 170
 Marlborough, 170, 175, 176, 185, 186, 294, 295
 Marshwood, 192
 Marston, Long, 24
 Maxstoke, 3, 4, 9
 Measand, 136, 146
 Melchet, 186
 Melksham, 170
 Mere (Wilts), 168, 169, 186, 191, 221, 295-298;

Merevale, 3
 Middleham (Yorks), 66
 Milbourne, 134
 Millthorpe, 136, 142
 Milston, 200
 Mineral springs, 5, 20, 170
 Minety, 193, 194
 Monk (J.), on Bromham, 217
 Monk's Close, 24
 Monk's Kirby, 3
 Monkton Deverill, 186, 269
 Monkton Farley, 168, 169, 186
 Moorduvvock Oddendale, 133
 Moravian children, school for, at
 Tytherton, 170
 Morgan's Hill, 39
 Morland, 136, 142, 146, 148, 149, 150
 Motte (A.), drawing by, 126
 Mulberry-tree at Stratford-upon-Avon,
 19, 75, 76
 Musgrave, Great, 151, 152
 Mytens (—), portraits by, 282

 Nateley Scures, 204
 Natland, 134
 Newbiggen, 134, 142
 Newnham Regis, 4, 5, 18
 New Place, Stratford-upon-Avon, 19
 Newport Pagnell, 55
 Nichols (J. G.), on Stratford-upon-Avon,
 101
 Nind, 270
 Nine Men's Morris, plan of, on grave-
 stone at Salisbury, 324
 Norman bell-turrets, 203, 204
 Norton (Wilts), 300
 Nuneaton, 4, 5
 Nunnery at Amesbury, 200
 Nuthurst, 64

 Oaksey, 169, 198, 199
 Oak-trees, at Savernake, 330; at Sher-
 ston, 331; at Wedgenock Park, 127;
 at Whinfell, 143
 Obelisk at Kendal, 136
 Offchurch Bury, 4
 Okeburn, 168
 Oldborough Hill, 211
 Oldbury, 3
 Old Hutton, 136, 143
 Old Sarum, 173-175, 186, 300-308, 312
 Old Stratford, 37
 Orton, 136, 145-147
 Orton Scar, 135
 Osmund (—), sculpture by, 328
 Oversley Green, 39
 Oxford, 12

 VOL. XXV.

Pageants at Coventry, 10
 Painted glass, 16, 41, 43, 45-51, 53, 65,
 88, 141, 143, 144, 187, 195, 222,
 241, 243, 244, 252, 267, 317, 324,
 325
 Parker (T. L.), collections of, 327
 Parkes (D.), on Birmingham, 35-37;
 on Edgbaston, 58, 59; on Stratford-
 upon-Avon, 78
 Parrot (S.), on Willington, 161
 Pate Hole, 134, 135
 Patoun (—), paintings by, 122
 Patterdale, 134, 135
 Pedigree of the Aylesbury family, 188
 Pedimen Hall, 115
 Peeping Tom, statue of, 17
 Pen (Wilts), 173, 174
 Pendragon Castle, 134, 143
 Peretti (—), portraits by, 188
 Petrifying springs, 135, 136
 Pillerton, 8
 Pinley, 4
 Piombo (S. del), paintings by, 351
 Piscinæ, examples of, 38, 70, 72, 102,
 119, 193, 195, 219, 223
 Pitmead, 186
 Plague, visitations of the, 17, 176, 346,
 347
 Poleshill, 18
 Polesworth, 4, 5
 Potter (—), architecture of, 45, 47
 Potteries at Inkpen and Kintbury, 260
 Potters, 308, 309
 Poulton, 168
 Poussin (N.), paintings by, 351
 Premonstratensians, foundations of the,
 157, 159
 Preshute, 169
 Preston Patrick, 133
 Prinley Farm, 66
 Pulpits, remarkable, 53, 169

 Quinton, 105, 107

 Radmore, 3
 Radway, 18
 Ramsbury, 169, 191
 Ratley, 3
 Ravenstonedale, 135, 136, 143, 147, 156,
 157
 Raynigg, 143
 Reader (W.), on Baginton, 28-32; on
 Coventry, 53, 54; on Honiley, 66, 67
 Reagill, 134
 Rebus, for Baynton, 232; for Likeston,
 117; for Mowbray, 9, 28
 "Red Horse," the, at Radway, 18

 25

- Rembrandt, paintings by, 17, 120, 121, 188
 Resurrection, painting of the, at Coventry, 53
 Reynolds (Sir J.), portrait by, 282
 Robin Hood's Bower, 167
 Rocksburne, 351
 Roddenbury, 186
 Roman, coins, 20, 24, 64; encampments, 3, 133, 351; provinces, 3, 133; remains, 140, 141, 183, 186, 204, 205, 280; roads, 306; stations, 3, 153; temple, 133; vase, 123
 Rood, figure of the, at Chapel Plaster, 219
 Rood-lofts and screens, remains of, 18, 72, 297
 Roof with pointed timber arches, 116
 Rooke (H.), on Halford, 61
 Rose, reservation of a, by way of rent, 98
 Rossi, sculpture by, 36
 Roubiliac, sculpture by, 187
 Roundaway Hill, 177, 228
 Rowington, manor of, 79, 80
 Rowley Regis, 55, 56
 Rubens, paintings by, 17, 19, 120-122, 183, 282
 Rugby, 4, 5, 18
 Rush-bearing at Great Musgrave, 151
 Rysbrach, sculpture by, 187

 St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, 43, 44
 St. Mary Holme, 134
 Salisbury, 170, 175-177, 186, 187, 309-329
 Sarney (—), painting by, 246
 Sandford, 134
 Sarcophagus at Arbury Hall, 15
 Sarum, Old, 173-175, 186, 300-308, 312
 Savernake, 170, 191, 329-331
 Saxon, architecture, 4, 22, 32, 38, 63, 160, 196, 203, 285, 286; earthworks, 3; font, 269; utensils, 189
 Schnebbelie (—), drawings by, 315; on Salisbury, 316, 317
 Seagry, 288
 Seckington, 7
 Sedilia at Stratford-upon-Avon, 102
 Selwood, 174
 Sepulchres, reported British, 143
 Shap, 133, 135, 136, 143, 157-159
 Shenstone (—), sketch by, 38
 Sherborne (Dorset), 312-314
 Sherston, 174, 331
 Shortley, 3
 Shottory, 18, 20

 Shrewton, 187, 335, 336
 Shugborough, 20
 Shustoke, 4, 18
 Silbury Hill, 170
 Sizergh, 134, 143, 160
 Skeletons, discovery of, 20, 21, 39, 68, 123, 209, 309
 Skelsmergh, 134
 Skulls, discovery of, 19
 Skuskill Well, 159
 Slaughtenford, 228
 Small-pox, deaths from, 193
 Smardale, 134
 Smirke, architecture of, 136
 Smith (J.), engraving by, 30
 Snitterfield, 21
 Snyders (—), portraits by, 282
 Sodbury, 174
 Souls, admission of, to Guild of Holy Cross at Stratford-upon-Avon, 83-89, 91, 92
 Southam, 18
 South Wraxhall, 331-335
 Spirits, haunt of, at Crossfell, 141
 Spon Hospital, Coventry, 17
 Springs, petrifying, 135, 136
 Spye Park, 187, 190
 Spying How, 143
 Stained glass, 16, 41, 43, 45-51, 53, 65, 88, 141, 143, 144, 187, 195, 222, 241, 243, 244, 252, 267, 317, 324, 325
 Stainton, 134
 Standlynch, 170, 228
 Stanemore, 136, 147
 Stanleigh, 168
 Stanley Abbey, 336-338
 Stanton St. Quintin, 339
 "Star-stones," discovery of, at Shugborough, 20
 Staveley (Westmoreland), 134
 Steel chair at Longford Castle, 185
 Steeple Langford, 339, 340
 Stenkrith Bridge, 136
 Stivichall Hill, 11
 Stockton (Wilts), 187
 Stone coffin, 182; pulpit, 134
 Stone (J.), on Froxfield, 258; on Savernake, 330, 331
 Stone (Worcester), 292
 Stonehenge, 167, 306, 340, 341
 Stone mark in wall at Chalfield manor-house, 266
 Stoneleigh, 3, 4, 18
 Storr's point, 135
 Stourhead, 170, 187, 188, 191
 Stourton (Wilts), 169, 170, 174, 341-343

Stratford, Old, 37
 Stratford-upon-Avon, 4, 5, 11, 18-25, 74-103
 Stratford-sub-Castle, 188, 343, 344
 Strensham, 25
 Stretton-upon-Fosse, 103-108
 Studley, 3, 4, 169, 190
 Subterranean passages at Kendal, 152 ; at Old Sarum, 300-302
 Superstitions at Littlecote, 280, 281
 Sutton Coldfield, 5, 108-115
 Sutton, Little, 108
 Swindale, 147

 Table, curious, in chapter-house at Salisbury, 327, 328
 Tapestry-weaving, introduction of, into England, 20
 Tautney Hill, 204, 205
 Taylor (Sir R.), architecture of, 315
 Telford Ewyas, 192, 344-346
 Temple Balsall, 115-120
 Temple Sowerby, 134, 136
 Teniers, paintings by, 122, 188
 Tenure, curious, at Malmesbury, 290, 291
 Tessellated pavements, discovery of, 205, 206, 280
 Thames, source of the, 268
 Thellesford, 3
 Thomason (—), drawings by, 19
 Thompson (H.), paintings by, 188
 "Three Tuns," the, at Atherstone, 28
 Thrimby, 136, 147
 Tidworth, 188, 200
 Tiles, encaustic, discovery of, at Kenilworth, 18
 Tisbury, 188, 191
 Titian, portraits by, 121, 183
 Tollard Royal, 188, 346
 Tottenham Park House, 188, 191, 329
 Trentham, 119
 Trowbridge, 170, 175
 Tytherington, 169, 188, 189
 Tytherton Calloways, 170, 188

 Ulleswater, 134-136, 143
 Ulney, 66
 Underground river in Wilts, 183
 Uphant, 346, 347
 Upton Lovel, 189
 Upton Scudamore, 189
 Urchfont, 346, 347

 Vandyck, portraits by, 17, 19, 120-122, 182, 282, 350

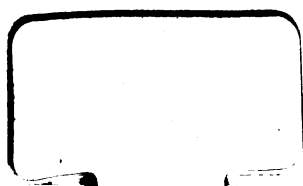
Veronese (Paul), portraits by, 120
 Vertue (—), engravings by, 280

 Wadswic, 207
 Waitby, 136, 147, 148
 Walker (Rev. J.), drawings by, 265
 Walker (T. L.), on South Wraxhall, 331-335
 Walker (—), portrait by, 182
 Walmley, 108, 114
 Walton, 19
 Wansdyke, 329
 Wansey (H.), on Stonehenge, 340, 341
 Wardour Castle, 177, 189, 319
 Warltire (—), on Stonehenge, 340
 Warmington, 3
 Warminster, 170, 347
 Warwick, 3-8, 11, 12, 19, 120-127
 Warwickshire, 3-130
 Watercrock, 153
 Weapons, ancient, discovery of, 20, 21
 Wedgenock, 127
 Wednesbury (Wilts), 173
 Welcombe Hills, 3, 5, 21, 22
 Wellesbourne, 128
 Wells, ebbing and flowing, 189 ; sacred, 135, 136, 170
 Wesham Abbey, 39
 Wessex (kings of), palace of, 182
 West Bromwich, 34
 Westbury, 170, 171, 345, 347, 348
 West Dean, 348, 349
 West Knoyle, 169, 189
 West Lavington, 171
 Westmoreland, 133-163
 Westport, 291
 Wharton, 160, 161
 Wheler (R. B.), on Edston, 60
 Whinfell, 135, 143
 Whitbarrow Scar, 135
 White Friars, foundations of the, 17, 43
 "White Horse," representation of, in the Wiltshire Downs, 174, 190, 191
 Whiteparish, 349, 350
 White-sheet Hill, 168
 Wildboar Fell, 135
 Willington, 161
 Wilson (Sir W.), architecture of, 125
 Wilson (—), paintings by, 188
 Wilton, 168, 171, 173, 174, 176-178, 189, 192, 221, 350, 351
 Wiltshire, 167-352
 Windermere, 135, 136, 143, 144, 161-163
 Windley Pool, 110

- Winton, 136, 144, 148
 Wiston (Suffolk), 204
 Witherlack, 136
 Wolfe Hall, 176, 188
 Wolford, Little, 73, 74
 Wolston, 3, 4
 Wolvey, 9, 128-130
 Woodhouse (Wilts), 177
 Woodward (P.), on Sizergh, 160
 Wootton Bassett, 351, 352
 Wootton Wawen, 3, 60, 80, 130
 Woundal Raise, 143
 Wraxhall, South, 331-335
 Wrynose Hill, 135
 Wyatt (J.), architecture of, 45, 47, 238, 321, 347
 Wyley, 352
 Wyth, 134
 Yarnbury, 168
 Yates (G.), on Berkswell, 32; on Hampton-in-Arden, 61-63
 Yew-trees, at Hampton-in-Arden, 62; at Mere (Wilts), 297; at Monkton Farley, 299
 Zeals, 169, 189, 191
 Zuccherro, portraits by, 120, 121, 282



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